

Attas sends emissary to Oman

ADEN (R) — Interim head of state Haider Abu Bakar Al Attas sent a special envoy to Oman on Monday in another move to dispel fears of a change in South Yemen's developing ties with its neighbours. Following the ouster of President Ali Nasser Mohamammad last month, the politburo of the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) pledged to pursue a policy of brotherly ties with all Arab countries based on mutual respect and "solidarity against imperialism and Zionism." Communications Minister Saleh Abu Bakar told reporters before leaving for Muscat that he carried a message from Mr. Attas to Sultan Qaboos on boosting "brotherly relations" in various fields. South Yemen and Oman ended 15 years of hostility when they established diplomatic relations in 1983 following Kuwaiti-mediated talks.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Arab Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية والرأي

Mubarak welcomes tripartite talks

CAIRO (R) — President Hosni Mubarak said on Monday he would welcome a possible meeting with King Hussein and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to discuss Mideast peace. "I am always willing to meet King Hussein and Arafat in Cairo," he told reporters without elaborating. Foreign Ministry sources said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Cairo representative, Al Tayeb Abdul Rahim, raised the possibility of a meeting between the three leaders, and an opposition newspaper reported they were expected to meet here by Saturday. Mr. Abdul Rahim told Reuters he would welcome such a meeting, which the Foreign Ministry sources said now hinged on the outcome of contacts between the three.

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King sends good wishes to Sri Lanka

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Monday sent a cable of good wishes to Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene congratulating him on the occasion of his country's independence day. The King wished the Sri Lankan people further progress and prosperity.

Mubarak meets Yugoslav president

CAIRO (R) — Yugoslav President Radovan Vukobratovic had a brief meeting with President Hosni Mubarak shortly after his arrival here Monday on Middle East problems, international relations and bilateral ties, officials said. Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid told reporters a two-and-a-half-hour meeting was scheduled for Tuesday. This is the fifth summit between Egyptian and Yugoslav leaders in the past four years. Mr. Mubarak visited Belgrade three times and former Yugoslav President Milka Spiljak came to Egypt in 1984.

13 killed in Sudan tribal clash

KHARTOUM (R) — At least 13 people were killed and scores were wounded in tribal fighting in the Red Sea city of Port Sudan over the weekend, Khartoum newspapers said Monday. The state-owned daily Al Ayyam said 16 died and 83 were wounded in the clashes between the Beni Amer, Arab nomads from the Sudanese-Eritrean border area, and non-Arab Nuba tribesmen from southern Kordofan province in west Sudan. It quoted Attorney-General Omar Abdul Ati as saying police reinforced by the armed forces had restored order and mediators were trying to reconcile the tribal factions.

U.S. to maintain aid to Egypt

CAIRO (AP) — A U.S. State Department official said on Monday the United States probably will maintain military and economic aid to Egypt near current levels despite Congress-ordered cutbacks in foreign aid. William Schneider, under-secretary of state for security, science and technology, made the comment to reporters after a one-hour meeting with President Hosni Mubarak. He was asked whether aid to Egypt would decrease as a result of last December's Gramm-Rudman budget-cutting amendment passed by Congress. "No, the aid will likely stay about the same level," Mr. Schneider answered.

Syria said to offer military aid to Sudan

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria has offered training and technical assistance for the Sudanese army, Sudan's defence minister, Major-General Osman Abdullah Muhammad, said Monday. Gen. Muhammad told Reuters before leaving at the end of a seven-day visit that the Syrians had also agreed to a regular exchange of military delegations between the two countries. During his stay, the Sudanese minister met President Hafez Al Assad and Defence Minister Major-General Mustafa Atia, and toured several military bases and training facilities.

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Arab protest against American veto at U.N. paralyzes Jerusalem

Combined agency dispatches

ARAB EAST Jerusalem came to a standstill on Monday as the people in the occupied holy city observed a protest against the United States veto of a United Nations Security Council resolution rejecting Israel's claims to the city.

The Palestine Press Service, which monitors events in the occupied West Bank, said the day-long business strike was called to back up demands by Islamic states at the United Nations to condemn Israel's actions at holy places in Jerusalem.

The Islamic protests over Israeli actions at Jerusalem's Haram Al Sharif began when a parliamentary committee visited the site last month.

A large Palestinian crowd forced them to leave the site. A second visit was also called off in the middle because of Palestinian opposition, after two of the Jewish legislators tried to pray at the Islamic shrine.

Last week, one of Israel's two chief rabbis suggested that Jews build a synagogue on the complex.

In observing the protest strike on Monday, private schools sent

pupils home, but state schools remained open.

Some Arab schools in the occupied West Bank also closed in protest, but the business strike was limited to the Jerusalem area, Palestinian sources told Reuters.

The U.N. draft resolution condemned the recent visits by Israeli parliamentarians to Haram Al Sharif, which houses the Al Aqsa and Dome of the Rock mosques.

The heads of most of the local Arab councils in Israel have warned that they will call a general strike in their towns and villages unless the "Jewish provocations" at Haram Al Sharif stop.

The Arab leaders distinguished the question of Haram Al Sharif from political issues. The head of the local council of Daburiyya said he defined the problem as "a religious one. We must organize in a religious manner and defend the

issue in a religious way." The local council heads issued a manifesto including demands to remove the border police contingent posted near the entrance to Haram Al Sharif and arm the guards in charge of the site.

In other incidents, troops enforced a curfew imposed on the West Bank town of Jericho after a hand grenade was thrown at an army bus late Sunday. A military spokesman said it bounced off the vehicle and exploded in the street, causing no injuries or damages.

A petrol bomb was thrown at an army patrol in the Balata refugee camp near Nablus on Sunday, the spokesman said. No one was injured and troops imposed a brief curfew.

One passenger on an Israeli bus was slightly injured when stones shattered the vehicle's windows near the Kalandia refugee camp north of Jerusalem, the spokesman said.

Pakistanis stopped work for five minutes at noon on Monday in a nationwide protest against violations of Islamic holy places in Jerusalem, Radio Pakistan reported.

The stoppage was ordered by the Pakistan government in response to a call from the 45-nation Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC).

9 killed, scores injured in east Beirut handbag explosion

Gemayel opponents meet in Damascus

BEIRUT (Agencies) — At least nine people were killed and many more wounded when a bomb hidden in a handbag exploded in a shopping centre in east Beirut on Monday, security sources said.

The sources, quoted by Reuters, said the blast, the seventh bomb attack in east Beirut in three days, gutted several shops. It was apparently aimed at a nearby office of President Amin Gemayel's Falange Party.

Ambulances sped to the scene and militiamen sealed off the area as smoke billowed from one building set alight by the explosion, witnesses told Reuters.

The attacks have raised fears of fresh inter-Christian conflict over

a Syrian-brokered agreement aimed at ending Lebanon's long-running civil war.

The country's Maronite Christian President Amin Gemayel is under mounting pressure to resign or throw his weight behind the pact to end a conflict that has cost at least 100,000 lives.

Security sources said a fashionable boutique took the full force of Monday's blast in New Jdeideh suburb. The bomb was hidden in a handbag planted about 300 metres from an office of Mr. Gemayel's Falange Party supporters.

Militiamen battled with tank, mortar and machine gun fire in and around Beirut on Monday as

the bomb exploded.

Two civilians were killed in night-long clashes with tanks and mortars between troops loyal to Mr. Gemayel in the mountaintop town of Souq Al Gharb and Syrian-backed militiamen, police reported.

In attacks on Sunday, two bombs exploded near Falange Party offices, injuring four people, while an Armenian suburb of east Beirut was rocked by three blasts that caused no casualties.

A small bomb wounded two women in east Beirut's Sinn Al Fil district on Friday.

Security sources blamed the

More human parts found in continuing shuttle probe

CAPE CANAVERAL (AP) — More human parts have washed up on nearby beaches and are being examined to see if they are remains of the Challenger's astronauts, sources reported Monday.

Two more ships and a third robot submarine, meanwhile, joined the search for the Challenger's cabin.

An investigation board held its first full formal meeting on Monday to study film and data that could tell whether a mysterious spurt of fire from a rocket triggered the destruction of the shuttle and its crew.

As the probe into Tuesday's disaster proceeded, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) officials were confident they could pinpoint the cause and resume shuttle flights perhaps as early as June.

"This is fundamentally a sound system," William R. Graham, acting director of NASA, said Sunday. "It's gone through 24 successful flights."

NASA has acknowledged only that one bone section has washed ashore, but has not said whether it came from one of the seven astronauts. That was last Wednesday, the day after the tragedy, when what appeared to be part of a foot was found with a piece of blue fabric attached.

The agency said it would have no comment on the latest report of more findings of human parts, saying that can only be released by the board of investigation.

The sources said that more parts

had been collected from the beaches and had been taken to a hospital at nearby Patrick Air Force Base. They would not disclose how many parts had been brought in or what they were.

NASA last week cautioned that the bone found then could belong to an animal or some other human than an astronaut. Remains from missing fishermen and other persons sometimes wash ashore on Florida beaches.

NASA spokesman Hugh Harris said the head of the board, shuttle director Jesse Moore, would meet with reporters later in the week.

Until then, Harris said, the public could expect little information from the board.

Mr. Graham, while acknowledging that the accident showed "there's a problem there," said that "the overall configuration and design we believe to be fundamentally sound and we believe it won't take a very long time to get this problem corrected."

He said investigators are not certain how to interpret photographs that show a plume of flame at or near a seam on the Challenger's right rocket booster "grow and grow... until it reaches the explosion point."

NASA sources, insisting on anonymity, say the flame probably triggered the explosion of the Challenger's fuel tank 74 seconds after liftoff.

Ferry debris from the spaceship rained into the Atlantic Ocean over a wide area east and north of Cape Canaveral.

France expels 4 Soviet diplomats

PARIS (AP) — France expelled four Soviet diplomats over the weekend, following the discovery of that a Frenchman was spying for the Soviet Union, the Foreign Ministry said on Monday.

The four diplomats left French territory by airplane over the weekend.

It was the most important expulsion of Soviets from France since 1983, when 47 Soviet officials were told to leave.

Bernard Sourisseau, a retired French navy non-commissioned officer, was arrested more than a week ago and charged with spying on French nuclear submarine activities for the Soviet Union, the prosecutor's office in Rennes revealed on Friday.

Mr. Sourisseau, 44, was alleged to have made regular trips to the Atlantic ports of Lorient and Brest, where he observed movements of warships at naval installations there as well as activities near the Ile de Longue nuclear submarine base near Brest.

"Four Soviet diplomats were asked to leave French territory following recent investigations by the French judiciary," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Judicial sources said Mr. Sourisseau was arrested after being seen making trips to Soviet war cemeteries in northwest France which coincided with visits by Soviet military delegations.



QUEEN OPENS JERASH DISPLAY: Her Majesty Queen Noor Monday inaugurates a Jerash exhibition at the French Cultural Centre in Amman. The exhibition is organized by the French Cultural Centre and the French Archaeological Institute for the Near East in cooperation with the Antiquities Department. On display at the exhibition are models of antiquities found in the Roman temple of Zeus, reliefs, maps, pictures and drawings illustrating the comprehensive restoration plan for the temple and the various stages of its implementation. The exhibition runs until Feb. 16 (Petra photo)

Peres says he will continue peace efforts despite obstacles

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres, in a speech to parliament, said on Monday he would not cease peace efforts "even if there are 1,000 obstacles in the way."

Peres defended his multiparty government against a no-confidence motion about his peace moves by the extreme right-wing Tehiya Party. The motion was expected to fail after a debate.

Tehiya member Yuval Ne'eman criticised Peres' "conciliation" efforts, saying the prime minister's stand had encouraged a recent upsurge in guerrilla attacks that killed 17 Israelis last year. "Palestinians already see their state in the making," he said.

Peres, who was interrupted by frequent catcalls from back benches, accused his critics of "turning peace into a vulgar word... and speaking only of war."

Pounding his fist on the rostrum, Peres added: "There is one thing we will not give up and that is peace. Even if there are 1,000 obstacles in the way."

Peres also contended that the

Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) failure to recognise Israel showed Israel was right in refusing to talk with the PLO.

Peres also indicated that Israel was awaiting Jordan's next move. But he said Israel would continue peace efforts "without hesitation. We will not be deterred by whether Jordan makes a decision or not" about maintaining an alliance with the PLO.

Arafat: Jordan-PLO talks have not failed

In Jeddah, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat was quoted on Monday as saying that talks with Jordan over a formula for Middle East peace-making "have stopped but have not failed."

Mr. Arafat, in an interview with the Saudi Arabian newspaper Al Shaqr Al Awsat, refuted all claims that the PLO-Jordanian relations have been soured.

"I refuse malicious attempts to upset the Jordanian-Palestinian relations. The negotiations have not failed but have stopped at this

stage though contacts are still continuing," he said.

"The PLO tried on its part to crown the King's efforts with success, and submitted several peace projects, and it was the American intransigence that led to the failure of those efforts," Mr. Arafat added.

"I categorically reject rumours of a severe crisis... matters were moving in quite the opposite direction," Mr. Arafat also said in the interview.

The "proof," Mr. Arafat said, was that Jordan had "forfeited the chance of concluding an American arms deal because of its refusal to attend an international peace conference without the PLO."

"King Hussein also has not pressured the PLO, but on the contrary has scored a point in his personal efforts when he secured on his last trip to the United States an American commitment to invite the PLO to the international conference if the organisation accepted U.N. Security Council Resolution 242," Mr. Arafat added.

(Continued on page 4)

Major East-West spy swap reportedly imminent

BONN (R) — A major East-West spy swap involving the release of jailed Soviet dissident Anatoly Shcharansky is being arranged by both superpowers and the two German states, informed West German sources in Bonn said Monday.

The sources, who asked not to be identified, said Washington, Moscow, Bonn and East Berlin had worked out details of the planned exchange and it was expected to take place next week.

U.S. sources also confirmed that a major swap was expected and said it had been scheduled to take place in West Berlin on Feb. 11. They added, however, that the publicity given to the operation could mean it would now be brought forward.

Bonn government spokesman Friedrich Ost told a press conference that he could not confirm or deny reports that a big exchange was in the offing.

But questioned further on the subject, he replied: "We don't want to say anything at the moment. Asked when he would be able to make a comment, he added: "Perhaps later."

The West German sources said they could give no details about the size of the planned prisoner exchange but that the release of dissident human rights activist Shcharansky, 37, was part of the deal.

News of the planned spy swap was broken by the West German mass circulation daily Bild, which cited "high Soviet sources" as saying it would be the biggest since World War II and take place on the border between West Berlin and East Germany.

Mandela rejects Botha's offer to release husband

CAPE TOWN (R) — Winnie Mandela on Monday contemptuously rejected a proposal by Pretoria to free her husband, jailed black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela, in exchange for a South African soldier captured in Angola.

South African President P.W. Botha suggested in parliament last Friday that he might free Mr. Mandela on humanitarian grounds if Luanda freed soldier Wynand Du Toit and Moscow released two dissidents from jail and internal exile.

"It's not even worth reacting to," Winnie Mandela told reporters on Monday after seeing her husband in Cape Town's Polismoor jail.

"It's just part of this gigantic ploy to present the government as humane, wanting to give the people of this country and the int-

ernational community the impression that it has any humane considerations on political matters, which it has not."

She added: "The very equation of Mandela's position... with that criminal, that terrorist (Du Toit) in Angola is proof that there would never have been any seriousness on the part of the government."

Du Toit was seized in Angola last year, and Luanda claimed he had been sent there on a sabotage mission. Pretoria said he was there on an intelligence-gathering mission.

Mr. Mandela was jailed over 20 years ago for sabotage and plotting the overthrow of white rule in South Africa.

He is still regarded as leader of the outlawed African National Congress guerrilla group.

Egypt awaits Israeli team to discuss Taba formula

CAIRO (AP) — President Hosni Mubarak said on Monday Egypt is waiting for an Israeli delegation to discuss the 14 conditions Israel attached to its agreement to submit a border dispute to arbitration.

In comments to reporters, Mr. Mubarak reported "progress" in Egyptian-Israeli relations but would not comment on the possibility of a meeting between him and Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

"We are waiting for the delegation to come and discuss these points," Mr. Mubarak said, referring to 14 points Peres' cabinet pronounced as the price of agreeing to arbitration over Taba.

That is a one-square-kilometre strip of Red Sea beach occupied by Israel but claimed by Egypt. The dispute has marred bilateral relations since April 25, 1982, when Israel returned to Egypt the rest of the occupied Sinai peninsula.

The 14 conditions include improved relations in trade, tourism and other fields and a return to Israel of Cairo's ambassador, withdrawn in September 1982 to protest the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Egypt has expressed reservations about some of the points, especially an Israeli demand for a complete report on the killing of seven Israelis by an Egyptian policeman last October. Sgt. Suleiman Khater was convicted of unpremeditated murder and sentenced to life imprisonment but subsequently was hanged in a prison hospital room, according to the Egyptians a suicide victim.

Foreign Ministry sources said Egypt suggested this Wednesday for a meeting with the Israeli delegation in the Cairo area but that the Israeli government so far has given no answer.

U.S. ships may resume 'manoeuvres' off Libya

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States may send two aircraft carriers back to waters north of Libya next week to resume a war of nerves with Colonel Muammar Qadhafi over his alleged support of extremism, U.S. officials said Monday.

The carriers Coral Sea and Saratoga last Friday ended a week of manoeuvres with the U.S. Sixth Fleet near the Gulf of Sirte, which Libya claims as its territory, and are now in port in Italy.

One Reagan administration official, who asked not to be identified, said the carriers might be ordered back to the area next week to "remind" Col. Qadhafi that the United States will operate in international waters "no matter what he says."

The United States contends that the gulf lies in international waters

and in 1981 carrier-based warplanes shot down two Libyan aircraft which challenged them in gulf air space.

The Pentagon refused comment on planned movements in the Mediterranean, where the United States currently has 31 ships.

During last week's manoeuvres U.S. navy planes and ships did not cross a "line of death" drawn by the Libyan leader across the mouth of the Gulf of Sirte.

Administration officials told Reuters there were still no immediate plans to cross that line.

The United States accuses Col. Qadhafi of backing attacks against U.S. and other Western targets, particularly the Dec. 27 shootings at Rome and Vienna airports in which 20 people died, five of them Americans. Col. Qadhafi denies any connection with the incidents.

EC and African states begin talks on apartheid

LUSAKA (R) — Foreign Ministers of the European Community (EC) and the six black-ruled "front-line states" of southern Africa met on Monday to chart ways to step up pressure on Pretoria to end apartheid.

Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda opened the two-day meeting with a call to South Africa to act urgently to dismantle its system of racial segregation or be engulfed by conflagration.

The meeting is the first of its kind between the two regional groups, but conference sources said the African side was disappointed at the level of the community's representation.

The delegation is led by Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek, whose country holds the presidency of the community.

It also includes British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and

Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias but the other community members are represented by their deputy foreign ministers or more junior officials.

The Zambian leader, current head of the front-line group formed in 1975 to end white minority rule in its last outposts in Africa, set out five points he said Pretoria must swiftly follow to ensure peaceful change.

He said it should "declare that apartheid is dead and waiting to be buried," lift the state of emergency in all areas and the ban on the African National Congress (ANC) and other political organisations, release Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners unconditionally and "establish a dialogue between the government and genuine leaders, not puppets, including those in prison."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Rifai receives Favez, European envoys

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai Monday received Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akel Al Favez. Mr. Rifai also received the ambassadors of Britain, France, West Germany.

TCC disconnects 15,000 phones

AMMAN (J.T.) — A report in Al Dustour Arabic daily newspaper on Monday said that the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) has disconnected telephone lines of more than 15,000 subscribers who failed to pay their bills. A TCC spokesman was quoted by the newspaper as saying that the total amount due from subscribers is almost JD 6 million and he said that re-connection will be made once subscribers pay their bills or reach a settlement with the TCC. According to the report, those who failed to pay bills for 1984 and 1985 are among subscribers whose telephone lines have been disconnected.

Alia to operate weekly flight to Sana'a

AMMAN (J.T.) — Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, has announced that it will commence a flight from Amman to Sana'a starting April 6. The weekly flight which will be with a Boeing 727 will operate nonstop every Sunday and returning to Amman the following morning.

Jordan, Tunisia sign trade minutes

TUNIS (Petra) — Jordan and Tunisia Monday signed minutes of talks held last week between a delegation from the Jordanian Commercial Centres Corporation and officials at the Tunisian centre for promoting imports in implementation of an economic cooperation agreement signed between the two countries. The two sides stressed their keenness on promoting bilateral cooperation in trade fields and exchanging trade exhibitions.

Shaka'a opens Salt municipal court

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Justice Riyadh Al Shaka'a Monday visited Salt and opened a court which will handle cases related to the city's municipality. The court, which will be operational on Feb. 16, will examine violations of municipal laws, traffic regulations and rules set by Salt Municipality concerning public health and construction operations. Prior to the opening ceremony, the minister met with municipal council members.

University to inaugurate direct TV line

AMMAN (Petra) — A direct television line transmitted via the satellite earth station will be inaugurated at 4.00 p.m. on Tuesday at the University of Jordan's Engineering and Technology Faculty. The line, which will connect the University of Jordan with Dublin University in Ireland, will transmit televised lectures. The programme is being carried out by the civil engineering section in cooperation with the broadcasting and television corporation.

Tunisian speaker praises King Hussein

TUNIS (Petra) — Speaker of the Tunisian Lower House of Parliament Mahmoud Al Masoudi Monday praised His Majesty King Hussein's national stance and his continuous endeavours to enhance joint Arab action. During a meeting with Jordanian Ambassador to Tunisia Talal Sati' Al Hassan, the speaker expressed satisfaction with bilateral cooperation in all fields and voiced his country's interest in further cooperation between the two countries. Mr. Al Hassan expressed Jordan's keen interest in building bridges of cooperation with all Arab countries.

Cabinet approves engineering model

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has approved a model agreement for engineering services, studies, designs and the preparation of contract documents for any project as drawn up by the construction sector committee. The approval came in response to recommendations of the minister of public works and chairman of the construction sector committee. The model for this agreement will be the accredited text used by public departments and institutions when contracting consultants for engineering services.

ATPS steam boiler in operation

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) has started operating the first steam boiler unit at the Aqaba Thermal Power Station (ATPS) marking the start of the station's experimental operation stage. Experimental operation of whole unit will be made during the next month and it will later be connected with the national transmission grid to supply the country with electric power. The second ATPS steam unit is expected to be operational in mid-September.

Man receives 6 months for buying hashish

AMMAN (Petra) — The military court has sentenced Hamdi Hassan Mohammod Abu Khamash to six months in prison and fined him JD 50 for possessing hashish. The general military governor endorsed the sentence.

9 killed in east Beirut blast

(Continued from page 1)

blasts in the Armenian suburb on a dispute among Lebanon's small Armenian community. Three prominent Armenians were also shot dead by gunmen on Saturday in west Beirut.

Three Lebanese militia chiefs, meanwhile, were due to meet in Damascus to launch a new campaign to topple Mr. Gemayel.

The tripartite alliance moves towards a political escalation to bring Mr. Gemayel down. Beirut's independent An Nahar newspaper said.

Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt, Shi'ite Amal militia leader Nabih Berri and ousted Christian "Lebanese Forces" militia commander Elie Hobeika signed the peace accord in the Syrian capital on Dec. 28 to give Lebanon's majority Muslims a greater share of power.

Mr. Gemayel joined forces with hardline Christian militia chief Samir Geagea on Jan. 15 to oust Mr. Hobeika in east Beirut street battles that left the agreement in tatters.

Mr. Berri, Mr. Junblatt and Mr. Hobeika met in Damascus on Sunday with Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam and were scheduled to hold other meetings

on Monday. Radio stations in Beirut said they were mapping out a strategy to intensify a military and political campaign to bring about Mr. Gemayel's downfall.

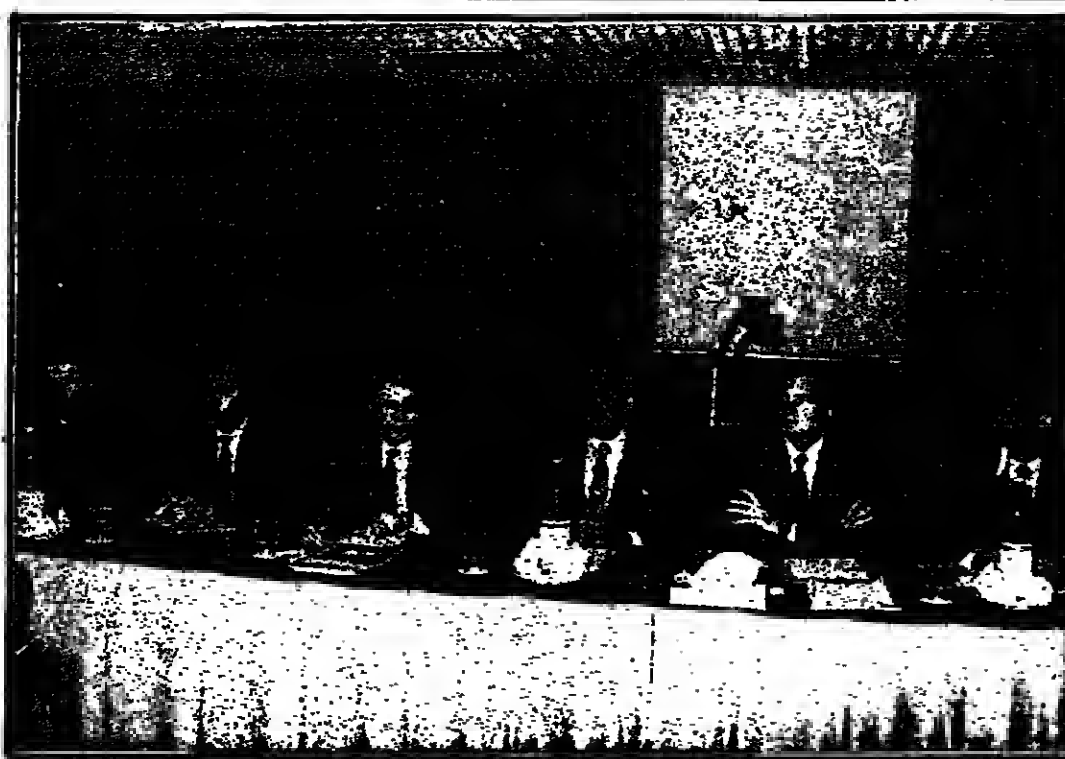
The Beirut newspaper As Safir, which is close to Syria, said the Damascus discussions would produce the third phase of the anti-Gemayel campaign.

It said the first phase was the boycott of Mr. Gemayel's administration that was formally proclaimed 10 days ago, rendering him incapable of convening cabinet or parliament sessions.

The second phase was ex-President Suleiman Franjeh's entry last week into the drive to overthrow Mr. Gemayel by openly calling for his immediate resignation as a pre-condition to bringing about peace to Lebanon.

As Safir indicated the third phase would basically involve intensified military pressure on the Christian enclave from the north and east as well as Beirut's green line.

It said Mr. Franjeh's son Robert would soon be joining Mr. Hobeika, Mr. Berri and Mr. Junblatt in the Damascus deliberations on the anti-Gemayel campaign.



United Nations Relief and Works Agency Commissioner General Giorgio Giacomelli (second right) and Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Taher Kana'an (third left) attend the opening of a congress on the agency's health and education services (Petra photo)

Egyptian naval officers tour Aqaba sites

AQABA (J.T.) — An Egyptian naval delegation met with local officials in Aqaba Monday and were briefed on the development of the port city. The delegation, which arrived on board a number of navy ships on a four-day visit to Aqaba, also visited the Jordan Fertiliser Industry Company (JFIC) and the Marine Science Station.

The military commander of Aqaba held a reception on Sunday evening in honour of the visiting delegation at the start of the navy ships' visit. It was attended by Egyptian ambassador to Jordan Ihab Wahbeh and other officials. The delegation will be taken on a tour of tourist and archaeological sites in Aqaba, Petra and Wadi Rum.

Passenger terminal

In another development, the Jordanian Ports Corporation (JPC) announced Monday that it will set up a modern passenger station to serve as a terminal for passengers leaving and arriving at Aqaba to and from Egypt and other ports in the Red Sea region and will build a new quay for ships docking at the harbour. A feasibility study on the project is being announced in the coming three weeks, according to JPC Director Bassam Qaqish.

Delegation leaves for England to market Jordan's tourist sites

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Jordanian delegation left for London Monday to take part in a meeting organised by British Airways (BA) and the Jordanian Ministry of Tourism which will discuss ways of marketing Jordan's tourist sites.

The 10-day gathering entails making visits to Manchester and Birmingham in addition to London where displays of Jordanian traditional handicrafts and folklore performances will be held.

The delegation is led by Tourism Authority Director Nasir Atallah and groups a number of officials from the Ministry of Tourism, several tourist and travel agents, dealers in traditional industries and handicrafts and local folk troupes.

Last Thursday, Mr. Gordon

Kayed to participate in Arab interior ministers' council

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is participating in a meeting of the Arab interior ministers' council which is due to open in Casablanca, Morocco, on Tuesday. The three-day meeting will discuss the council's activities and plans as included in a report by the council's general secretary.

It will also discuss a pan-Arab security strategy, review recommendations issued by an Arab police chiefs conference last year, study a new law on combating drug smuggling and a number of procedural matters of concern to the council.

Minister of Interior Hassan Al Kayed left for Morocco Sunday to take part in the council's meeting. He is accompanied by Amman Governor Ali Al Bashir, Public Security Director Abdul Hadi Al Majali and a number of officials.

Khamash documents Jordan's disappearing rural architecture for posterity

By Meg Abu Hamdan

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Few people really know what traditional Jordanian homes look like and certainly no-one has ever made a detailed study of them. That is no-one until Amar Khamash, a young architectural student, came along and now, because of his extensive research, untiring enthusiasm and unflagging determination many, many people, not just in Jordan, but all over the U.S. and Europe will know exactly what indigenous Jordanian architecture is all about.

Fully sponsored by the Royal Endowment for Culture and Arts, Khamash is turning his final year thesis into a large and comprehensive exhibition that will open in March at the University of Southwestern Louisiana, where Khamash is currently studying. It will then tour four other American universities before going on to Amsterdam and Germany. Finally, it will come to Jordan where the Endowment hope to house it permanently.

No glamour, but lots of appeal

After the exhibition, the traditional architecture of Jordan will probably attract a lot more attention, something it has never done in the past. For, unlike its counterparts in Yemen, where the tower houses rear up in clusters on the hillsides, or in Baghdad and Damascus where the courtyard houses seem to be wrapped almost tangibly in the exotic allure of the mysterious orient, it is a modest self-effacing affair built out of locally available materials to fit the lifestyle to fit the lifestyle and needs of those who live in them. But despite their lack of glamour, Khamash's studies show them to be full of endearing qualities and details that will almost certainly help in the search for a significant and relevant modern regional architecture.

Khamash, an artist of some calibre from an early age, first became interested in the local architecture around seven years ago. At that time he was spending a lot of his time out in the countryside sketching and painting the watercolours for which he has become well known. One of his favourite haunts was the area around Ajloun where the rolling hills dotted with olive trees caught his eye and imagination. After a while, as he became a familiar though somewhat unusual figure, the local villagers started to invite him inside their homes. "My first reaction was one of shock," he says. "Having been brought up in the concrete confusion of Amman, I literally experienced a cultural shock, so great was the difference. The interiors of the houses were breathtaking — mud everywhere and a minimal amount of objects."

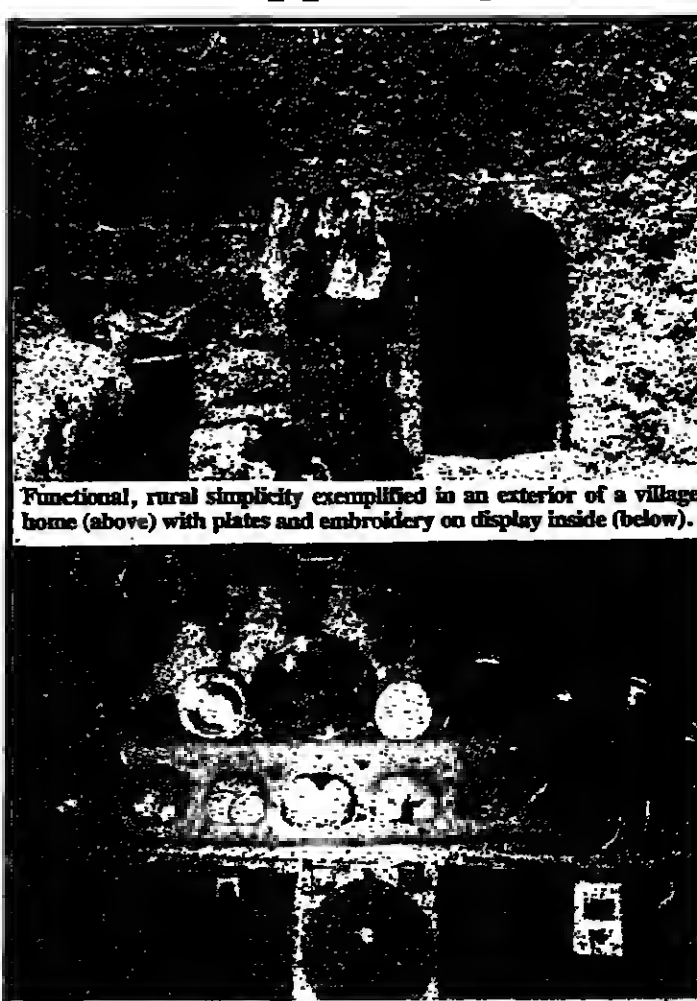
Source of future inspiration

Then after a spate of lectures and seminars, held about three years ago, on what Amman should look like architecturally, Khamash started to realise that the local village architecture had to be the source or inspiration for the future. "I found it really very obvious," he says, "if we are looking for a foundation on which to build the only logical one would be our traditional architecture."

But already Khamash's brief excursions into the villages told him that after four or five more years there would hardly be any left intact to investigate. It was then that the project started to take shape. While he could not physically save the villages he could at least rescue their ideas, their themes.

"I felt that before we could improve our traditional architecture we must have it in our hands, in front of our eyes. More importantly we had to make it available for future generations and this was the main goal of my project — to guarantee that even if we don't have the villages we have at least enough documentation. Even if no-one ever uses it, it's important to give them the option."

Khamash went on to explain why the old houses in the villages face certain extinction. "Early Hashemite architecture, that is the buildings constructed around the turn of the century, are rapidly becoming economically unfeasible. They cost a great deal to maintain and furthermore they are not rentable. Since these buildings are not protected under Jordanian law so the only solution economically speaking and understandably for the villagers who own them, is to destroy them and replace them with concrete structures."



Functional, rural simplicity exemplified in an exterior of a village home (above) with plates and embroidery on display inside (below).

Information gap

Having embarked on the project Khamash started to look around for documentation on the subject and came up with the discovery that there is virtually no information, certainly nothing published, about Jordanian village architecture anywhere. The archaeologists based here have only recently been doing anything on village architecture which prompted Khamash to comment wryly: "Why should we know about life in a Bronze Age village and not about the life in a present day one. If we are not careful we could end up with much fewer artifacts of our grandfathers time than of the Roman times."

The project really started to take shape in Khamash's fourth year at the University of Southwestern Louisiana where he is studying architecture. It was then that the bias of the teaching shifted away from basic design to materials.

UNRWA needs \$10m to balance its budget, Giacomelli says

Commissioner general attends congress on agency's services

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Approximately \$10 million is needed to balance the 1986 budget deficit of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA), the agency's Commissioner General Giorgio Giacomelli said Monday.

Mr. Giacomelli, who attended the opening session of a congress on the agency's services in the field of education and health, voiced optimism over possibilities to raise enough funds to meet the deficit. The commissioner general said he was planning to make a tour of the Gulf region, the United States and Arab League countries in a bid to raise funds to meet the increasing expenditures of UNRWA.

The U.N. General Assembly has expressed willingness to contribute to UNRWA's activities but the "financial matter has not yet been solved," Mr. Giacomelli told reporters at the congress.

The two-day congress, which was patronised by Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Taher Kana'an, will discuss working papers on UNRWA's services to Palestinian refugees, mainly in the fields of health and education.

Representatives from 100 non-governmental organisations (NGO) are taking part in the congress, jointly organised by UNRWA and the Geneva-based International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA). The meeting aims to identify areas of action between UNRWA and NGOs and to decide on future cooperation. Both NGOs and UNRWA have joint and complementary programmes in health and educational related affairs for the benefit of Palestinian refugees.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Giacomelli said UNRWA is trying hard to avoid further cuts in services to Palestinian refugees although, he said, this depends on donor countries fulfilling their commitments to the agency.

Commenting on UNRWA staff complaints over reductions in the agency's services, Mr. Giacomelli said the organisation "met their legitimate requests within its limited financial capabilities."

Increasing demand for services Mr. Giacomelli noted that the

budget for education and health in 1986 is the same as that of 1985, but added that there has been a sharp increase in the demand for services with 3,600 more students registering this year in addition to a 25 per cent increase in patients receiving treatment at UNRWA's medical centres. Mr. Giacomelli, however, maintained that the quality of services in education and health are "adequate and effective."

Speaking about 1986 budget, Mr. Giacomelli said total expenditure for the year is estimated at \$198 million, compared with \$188 million in 1985.

Last-minute contributions by some countries late in 1985 helped the deficit-hit agency as the budget was short of funds even after the adoption of austerity measures, the commissioner general said. Some 80 per cent of UNRWA's budget is spent on staff salaries as the agency employs approximately 10,000 teachers and 3,000 doctors and nurses.

In reference to Jordan's contributions, Mr. Giacomelli said the Kingdom has donated \$715,000 in addition to \$109 million in services for Palestinian refugee camps. The contribution is in the form of public services and facilities and secondary education which is not provided by the agency.

Ma'an to open physiotherapy unit

MA'AN (Petra) — A physiotherapy section is to be opened at the government hospital in Ma'an in the coming week, according to an announcement made by the hospital's director, Dr. Abdullah Al Shawawreh.

He told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that the hospital will provide the new section with staff and medical equipment to enable it to offer all the necessary services. The hospital also plans to open an intensive care unit during this year and is currently training personnel and staff to man that section as well, Dr. Shawawreh added.

Dr. Shawawreh went on to say that at the beginning of 1986 the hospital's emergency section was separated from the main building and is now functioning independently with its own doctors and nurses, a laboratory, an X-ray unit and two ambulances.

He continued that the hospital has recently added a specialist in urinary tract diseases and another expert on X-rays to its staff. These two sections opened in the past year and have offered services to 11,858 people so far, Dr. Shawawreh said.

He said that the hospital last year opened a training school for assistant nurses and added that 26 female nurses enrolled in the 18-month course which provides theoretical as well as practical training.

Dr. Shawawreh referred to the development of the government hospital in Ma'an since its establishment in 1967 and said that it started with a chest diseases section.

A paediatric section, a unit for the treatment of internal diseases and maternity sections were added and later came other sections for the treatment of eyes, nose, and throat disorders and a surgery section which were supplied with X-ray units and laboratories.

The 86-bed hospital is now served by 30 physicians and specialists who are provided with full accommodation, Dr. Shawawreh continued. He went on to say that Ma'an hospital is of great importance since it is located on the Desert Highway linking Amman with Ma'an and Aqaba. Last year the hospital gave treatment to 4,777 patients and carried out 1,056 surgical operations, Dr. Shawawreh concluded.

Most of the documentation was done with the camera, time Khamash felt being of the essence. Also, the rounded corners and curving walls of the handbuilt structures made the making of careful architectural plans, as one would do in the west, really inapplicable. Instead, Khamash noted what percentage of the house was used for storage and for living.

"I liked to measure sometimes to get the proportions right, but if you live in the villages for a year, then you get an intrinsic feel for these anyway," he said.

All aspects

Khamash collected everything he could about the village. He would talk to the old people, visit nearby archaeological sites, and the original village sites, the springs, the large important trees and the places which the villagers considered special in some way. He would collect shepherds, as well as the names of the caves, valleys and hills all around.

"Architecture," Khamash explains, "is not just an abstract thing. It is really the result of the netting of all kinds of things together, what the people grow and eat, their history and traditions."

The resulting thesis and exhibition from all these months in the field is now in its final stages of completion. Accompanying the show will be a 125 page black and white catalogue which, while being a reference for the exhibit, will also exist in its own right.

"The exhibition will really be an impression, a journey through Jordan for the casual passerby," Khamash explained, "Even though it will provide accurate information, the catalogue will be more for the specialists in this field and complimentary copies will be sent to all centres for Middle Eastern Studies."

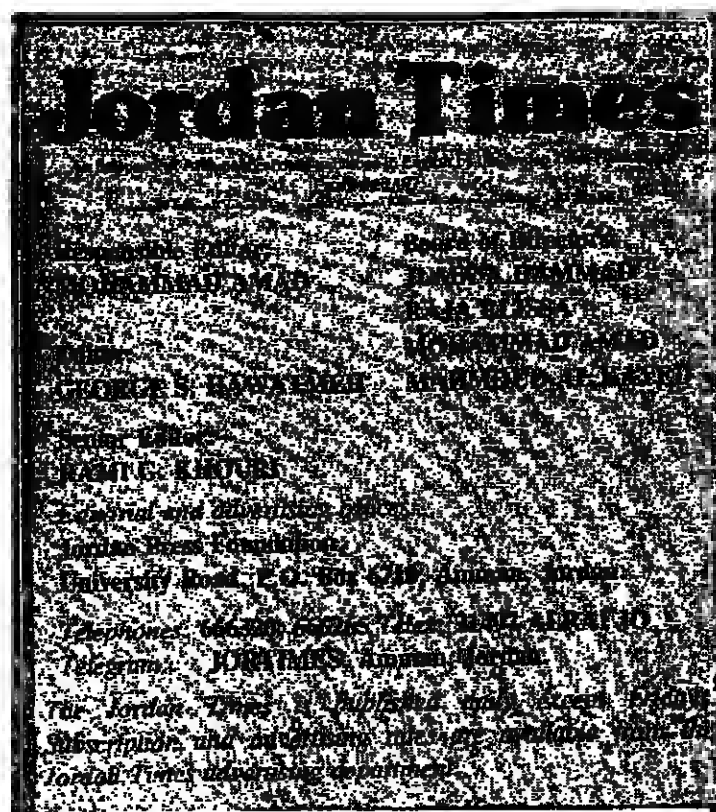
The catalogue will probably be our first impression here of this exciting and impressive achievement, as it will be some time before the exhibition will arrive in Jordan.

Collection technique

"The technique of collecting material differed from place to place, the village itself often dictating what I should be taking note of," Khamash continued. "For

The village strip

True Jordanian villages Khamash argues all fall in the mon-



Separate and unequal

SHIMON Peres can expect to be prime minister of Israel for another nine months — and possibly longer. Under the agreement reached after the indecisive general election in 1984, the rival Labour and Likud parties sank their differences in a coalition government of which Peres was to be prime minister until October 1986 before handing over to Yitzhak Shamir, the leader of the Likud.

Since then, Peres has notched up a number of "successes." Inflation has been greatly reduced. Relations with the United States — despite the embarrassment when an American Jew was caught selling state secrets to Israel — have been more serene than in the stormy days of Begin. A reconciliation with Egypt has been brought nearer by the acceptance of a preliminary agreement over the disputed border area of Tabaa.

Thus strengthened, Peres has been looking for further successes which may enable him to outmanoeuvre his Likud rival. During his European tour last month, he hoped to win support for his policy of negotiating a settlement of the Palestinian problem without reference to the PLO, and to gain for Israel even more preferential treatment in its commercial dealings with the European Community. On the first issue, the Europeans could be expected to abide by the principle they enunciated at Venice in 1980: that in any Arab-Israeli settlement the Palestinian people must be able "to exercise fully its right to self-determination" and that the PLO must be "associated with the negotiations." As to the second, there is an equally important point of principle for the European governments to bear in mind, especially in the light of current Western attitudes towards South Africa.

Peres went to Europe as the elected head of a government which openly tolerates, and in some areas encourages, racial discrimination between its Jewish and its Arab subjects. To take a simple example: the Israeli kibbutz, mistakenly seen by many in the West as a symbol of Israeli democracy, is open to Jewish members but closed to Arabs — even though the very ground on which many kibbutzim are established has been seized, by force or by legal subterfuge, from its rightful Arab owners. Again, in the Israeli township of Upper Nazareth, built for exclusive Jewish occupancy on a hill overlooking the Arab city of Nazareth, Jewish householders are required by the Israeli municipality to sign an undertaking "not to sell a flat to any member of the minorities" (a polite euphemism for the Arab citizens of Israel).

In the occupied territories the situation is even worse. According to the leading Israeli authority on the matter, Mervin Benvenisti's West Bank Data Project (1985), the Israelis have now expropriated 52 per cent of the land in the (Arab) West Bank and turned it over to Jewish military or civilian use. There are nearly a million Palestinian Arabs still living in the West Bank; but after 18 years of Israeli occupation and land-grabbing they have the use of less than half of the land that was theirs — while 45,000 Israeli settlers are living on and profiting from the other 52 per cent.

The instances of discrimination can be multiplied almost indefinitely, occurring as they do in matters of wages, education, housing and social services (in all of which Arab citizens of Israel are treated according to quite different standards from their Jewish compatriots); and in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip the discrimination is made even more explicit by a regime of military occupation whose control extends into every remotest corner of Palestinian life — but which has no jurisdiction over the Jewish settlers.

What could be clearer or more reprehensible than this: that Palestinian Arabs, in the land of their birth, should be subject without their consent to one set of laws, while Jewish immigrants are subject to an entirely different and preferential one? There can be no valid reason for Europeans to support or encourage a regime, whether in South Africa or in Palestine, which regards racial discrimination as a legitimate instrument of state power — Middle East International.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Israeli designs

AN official statement by the Israeli cabinet issued Sunday clearly defined three terms for Israel to join the peace negotiations. Each of these terms and conditions proves beyond doubt that the Zionist enemy still adheres to its stands and policies and wants to impose capitulation and a peace of Zionist making on the Arabs. The proposed Israeli peace has nothing to do with Palestinian land and Palestinian people, and it is a formula that gives legitimacy to occupation and conceals measures designed to Judaize Arab territory. One of these terms calls for an international conference to be held only after direct negotiations have been conducted between the Arabs and the Israelis. These Israeli terms do not offer any new position and are designed to convene an international conference only to endorse Israel's usurpation of Arab land. Such conditions and terms, if accepted by the Arabs, would simply make them lose any right to their homeland and would thus accept Israel's permanent occupation of Palestine. The Arabs continue to call for a U.N.-sponsored international conference, not in form but in substance, and want such conference to implement U.N. Security Council resolutions on the Palestine issue, which call for a withdrawal of Israeli forces from Arab lands occupied since 1967.

Al Dstour: American arms

THE decision to freeze and to postpone selling Jordan any defensive weapons did not come as a surprise to us because the U.S. Congress is captive of the Zionist lobby. We really regret to see the U.S. administration completely restricted and unable to take decisions that can serve America's highest interests. But we would like to emphasise that this decision on the sale of arms to Jordan will not deter this country from seeking other means available to it in order to supply its armed forces with necessary weapons for defence. We are surprised to see Congress linking this arms deal with what the Zionist lobby call "the peace process" in the Middle East. The Zionist lobby is openly trying to impose blackmail on Jordan and force it to accept Israel's terms for a settlement so that the way will be open for selling it U.S. arms. But Jordan does not accept this condition under any circumstances. Jordan seeks the establishment of a just and durable peace in the Middle East because this area is in dire need of such peace, and Jordan refuses to link such peace with the selling of arms designed to help the country defend itself from external aggression. Jordan will continue to seek peace despite the U.S. administration decision, and at the same time will seek other sources to acquire arms, needed for defence.

Sawt Al Shaab: U.S. commitment

THE U.S. president's decision to freeze arms sales to Jordan did not come as a surprise to us. We had expected this decision because it is linked directly with the U.S. policy which fails under Zionist pressure that continues to form and direct America's foreign policies. This decision represents another U.S. retreat from official commitments, particularly with regards to the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Zionist lobby in the United States has used the arms sale to Jordan as a means for exercising blackmail against Jordan in order to force it to change its national stands and force it to abandon its commitments towards the Palestine problem. Over the past six months, the Zionist lobby has tried to link this arms deal with what Washington call "the peace process" and also with "direct negotiations." But Jordan has strongly refused any linking between the two, and has been exerting all its efforts to give further momentum to genuine peace efforts and to convene an international conference to achieve it. We cannot accept terms imposed on us by the United States and Israel for achieving peace, and the only formula acceptable to the Arabs is a U.N.-sponsored international conference where there can be no blackmail or pressure.

Big people, big questions ... and little children

By Rami G. Khouri

People all over the world have reacted in their own way to the tragedy of the explosion that destroyed the Challenger Space Shuttle a week ago. The people of the United States, with much dignity, and as a single nation, reacted to their loss in the manner that each thought appropriate. Besides the personal expressions of sadness, loss, and admiration for the courage of those who died in space, what struck me most about the reaction of the American people was a trend that manifested itself several days after the initial shock. This was a multitude of expressions of concern for the psychological and emotional impact the Challenger's crash would have on the young children of the United States. As I read several articles on the possible psychological reaction that a young child of, say, four or five years old, may have to seeing the Challenger explode on his or her television screen, I thought: What an extraordinary nation is America.

It seems that the televised death of schoolteacher Christa McAuliffe may impact badly on some children, who had been poised to watch the triumph of a schoolteacher — a figure familiar to all children, and a symbol of how a child learns, grows up, matures and moves into adolescence and adulthood with self-confidence. Indeed, to heighten the symbolism of teacher McAuliffe's being the first private citizen to ride in space, it had been planned that she would give several lessons to the schoolchildren of America from the orbiting shuttle, reaching the children through a satellite-beamed television relay. Instead of watching her triumph, the children of America watched in horror as the Challenger exploded

and its crew of seven died. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is drawing up plans to bring psychological support to the children of the United States, and child psychologists around the country have been advising parents and teachers to encourage children to express and discuss their feelings about the tragedy. Otherwise, experts fear, some children may react with the feeling that nothing in this world is safe; and that other familiar figures in one's life, such as parents, teachers, siblings and friends, may also die suddenly. The impact of this sort of feeling on a young child could be devastating.

We can be pleased — even proud — that recent field studies indicate that around 80-85 per cent of all Jordanian children under the age of two are fully vaccinated against the five main child-killer diseases

I think it is an expression of the good things in American society that the people of the United States are reacting so quickly to deal with the possible detrimental effects of the Challenger explosion on the children of their country. A nation that can react so quickly to address the concerns of its children is a nation of quantifiable moral greatness.

Even if we note that there are large pockets of poverty, malnutrition and high infant mortality rates in a country as rich and powerful as the United States, we should also recognise that these are manageable challenges for a nation

that has the moral fortitude, political commitment, social cohesion and sense of civic consciousness to ask: What can we do to give our children a better opportunity than we had to live in this world, in good health, strong mind and noble spirit?

I mention these facts about the United States because so many people in the Middle East today are enchanted by things American — whether education, fast foods, television shows, cars, clothes, technology, music, social or political processes, or whatever. I would suggest that we could gain something genuinely valuable by examining the spirit of concern for their children's psychological well-being that Americans have manifested during this week of tragedy for them.

On the whole, we in Jordan have much to be proud of in our approach to our children's health and development. Given that 27 per cent of our population is under the age of seven years, and about half the population is under the age of 15, it would appear that the link in Jordan between the welfare of our children and our future prospects as a durable, self-confident, productive and humane country, is a very close link indeed.

We can be pleased — even proud — that recent field studies indicate that around 80-85 per cent of all Jordanian children under the age of two are fully vaccinated against the five main child-killer diseases. It may even surprise you to learn that about 92 per cent of our rural children are vaccinated against polio, and fully 90 per cent of all Jordanian children of five years old are vaccinated against polio, whooping cough, diphtheria and tetanus. Another fact is that the infant

mortality rate in Jordan has dropped during the past ten years, from 86 deaths per 1000 live births, to around 55 deaths per 1000 live births. These are some important examples of the good news we have generated.

But — like in the United States — there is some bad news as well. Something like 8,000-10,000 children die in Jordan every year from diseases that are easily preventable by a single vaccination. It is also rather troublesome that in a country as relatively sophisticated in medicine as Jordan — where open heart surgery has become routine, and where we have the astounding problem of unemployed doctors — that 27 per cent of the children who die every year die from dehydration.

A study conducted five months ago by the Ministry of Health, in cooperation with UNICEF, showed that the death rate due to diarrhoeal diseases among infants below one year of age is 20 per 1000. When we appreciate that diarrhoeal-induced dehydration can be quickly and easily treated in the home by a simple, cheap (300 fils) and effective oral-rehydration technique, it becomes reasonable to ask: How is it that we have a problem of too many doctors, but thousands of our children die every year because their body fluids drain out of them, as their parents watch in helpless agony?

I do not presume to have the answers to these questions, in the same manner that the adults of America cannot easily explain to their children why the Challenger exploded and the seven brave crew members died in space. The answer, in both cases, must derive from a process of open discussion. I was intrigued to learn that child

psychologists in the United States are recommending that parents and teachers openly discuss with children the destruction of the Challenger shuttle. Open and honest discussion, it seems, is the most effective means of dealing with difficult, and as yet unanswered, questions.

The children of Jordan — like most other children around the world, to be sure — are a political and moral constituency that is leaderless and expressionless.

I raise in public these basic questions about child health and development in Jordan in the belief that they can only be answered through an extensive public discussion. We are not dealing with a matter such as the export of tomatoes, the price of cement, or the construction of roads — all of which effect a rather narrow segment of the population. We are dealing with the death every year of thousands and thousands of our children — deaths that are all the more agonising for the parents because they could be prevented, and all the more troublesome for the country because they have not been prevented.

We have health care achievements of which we should be proud, and which we should flaunt with pride. But we also have some weaknesses, and when it comes to the death or permanent disablement of tens of thousands of Jordanian children every year, it becomes imperative that a public problem be publicly dealt with. As we launch a new five-year plan,

it would be appropriate to hold public hearings — or special parliamentary sub-committee sessions — about the efficacy of our public expenditures in the field of health.

It would be appropriate to ask, as financial and political priorities are being established and hundreds of millions of dinars are being allocated for the next five years: Who speaks for the children who died during the last five year plan; for the children who have been permanently maimed, and the tens of thousands of children who will die from easily preventable illness during the next five-year plan?

Who leads this constituency of infants in public life, and in the corridors of power?

Who decides the ratio of public money to be spent to build hospitals and rehabilitation centres, to treat patients who became sick as adults because their basic health needs may not have been fully addressed as infants and children? Who makes the financial cost/benefit analysis for the country, and for our future?

Could we hear from our public officials? Privat doctors? Mothers and fathers? Hospital administrators? The handicapped who were born healthy? The disabled whom we as a society never even gave a chance to live a life without disability? The children of Jordan — like most other children around the world, to be sure — are a political and moral constituency that is leaderless and expressionless. It is not their fault. They are, after all, children.

So whose fault is it? Whose responsibility is it? Whose future is it? And who will pay the price in the end if we, the big people, do not answer the big questions?

Pray not for the wretched soul

By Rev. Musa Adeli

AS the director of Jordan Caritas I was invited to visit the Philippines to see the work of Caritas there. From start to finish this proved to be an exceptionally interesting and informative trip. I was there for four days and one may well ask "What can one see or learn in such a short time?" And I would certainly answer "very little." All one can do is pick up certain impressions, and it is these, simply impressions, that I am anxious to share with you.

The Philippines, a collection of over 7,000 islands stretches across the tropics, some 1,600 kilometres in the Western Pacific Ocean. Some of these islands are so small as to all but disappear in high tide! Others of course are much larger. There are three main geographical areas, to the north Luzon which is composed of one large island having Manila situated within its boundaries. The second area, in the centre known as Visayas, is composed of numerous smaller islands and south of this is Mindanao another large island.

Like so many countries the Philippines has known foreign invasion and domination. In 1521 Ferdinand Magellan, sailing in the service of Spain, sighted the islands and landed. Later all the known islands were named Philippines after Philip the 2nd of Spain. By 1565 the entire archipelago was annexed and Spanish rule established, a rule which was to last for more than 300 years having profound effects on religion, society and economy. The familiar pattern of colonisation was followed by the Spanish and the local people were subjugated and their own authorities routed. History has so often proved that a subjugated and repressed people are never a happy or loyal people and this truth was borne out there. Unrest simmered. In the late 19th century the country was in a state of open rebellion against its Spanish lords. America, working towards its own advantage came in and captured Manila. The freedom thus gained was short lived for the Philippines were ceded under the Treaty of Paris. They fought this cession but finally laid down arms in 1902. In 1942 they were dragged into a war not of their own making and it was only at the end of World War II that the Americans handed back the Philippines. Independence had at last come after 381 years of struggle.

The population of the Philippines is 85 per cent Catholic, 14 per cent Muslim and 1 per cent others. I arrived in Manila at the time the pre-election campaign was reaching its fever pitch. I stayed at one of the big hotels in Manila and it was in that city that I first met the people in their own setting. To say I was overwhelmed would not be an exaggeration. What an impression these people gave me. Warm, friendly, hospitable, kind and so very helpful.

Nothing was too much trouble for them. Undemuth I sensed a deep goodness which emanated quite unconsciously from them. A very beautiful people.

Manila is composed of several cities or large self-contained areas. Makati is one: huge, rich, teeming with plush hotels, banks, palatial houses and apartments. Magalang is much the same. In both areas I was amazed to see, right opposite some of the grand hotels, areas of wasteland on which lived entire families. Homeless people: cooking, eating, sleeping and trying to live on a piece of uncovered wasteland. This did not seem to be any embarrassment to anyone but it left me profoundly disturbed.

Mr. Lydia, my Filipino counterpart at Caritas, took me to the slums where she works. These slums, situated within the boundaries of Manila, are unimaginable in their poverty and squalour. They are composed of thin tin lean-to huts. One we visited

houses a family of ten: the father, unable to work, 8 children and the mother, who slaves for them all. She was cooking rice which was given to her by Caritas. Without Caritas that family would have starved long ago. Everything happens for that family in that hut. They sleep, eat, cook, wash, talk, play, quarrel all within a space no bigger than a parking area for one medium sized car. Outside the hut is the open ditch which serves as a toilet. And so they live. I was told "Yes, this is bad, but the provinces are worse. There the people are really and constantly hungry."

A South Asian newspaper I read stated that President Marcos has \$250 million invested in a Manhattan Bank in New York. Imelda, the first lady, is also extremely rich in her own right. In 1983 when the Pope visited the Philippines, Imelda said they would build a church to commemorate the visit. The Church said "It is better to pray in the street and feed your people." A French magazine published details in which it was stated that 85 per cent of the fortunes of the Philippines belongs to President Marcos, his wife and her father. Possibly this is an exaggeration but it can give an idea as to the actual social situation in that country. Due to this situation corruption is rife: Social, political and moral corruption which involve and use children in a way that one finds almost too evil to believe.

One may ask what is the Church doing in all this. It seems that the Church in the Philippines is still a very structured organisation, the people are not involved at any level higher than devotional participation. Money also seems to be a paralysing factor of the Church in the Philippines. And so the Philippines prepare to go to the polls on Feb. 7. They prepare in an atmosphere of goodness and corruption; high hopes and despair; interest and apathy; riches and squalour; glamour and grinding poverty; astuteness and ignorance; confidence and fear — yes fear, heavy fear, an impression that I felt very strongly. I was told that the President visits the University and colleges to ensure that people in those places know who to vote for. It is left to his soldiers to visit the slums to ensure that they also know whom to vote for.

I was told by a Filipino that in a previous election campaign her illiterate mother was held at gunpoint until she put her thumb print on the form. Her initial resistance was met with "be careful, you have children" at which words the soldier fingered his gun barrel. She put her thumb on the paper. Can one say that this type of pressure is not present in the present campaign? I think not. The people will vote as they know they must, they cannot risk the consequences of doing otherwise.

And where does the interest of the Reagan administration lie in all this? The U.S. is most certainly aware of the strategic position of the Philippines just as it is also aware of the advantages of keeping Marcos where he is while branding Mrs. Aquino as a Communist. (It would seem that any and everyone who champions the rights of the oppressed is believed by the U.S. to be a Communist, if this is the case, may be the whole world is full of them!) Mrs. Aquino is certainly no Communist but a very brave woman indeed. She surely knows she cannot win the elections and by running the race she has made an implacable enemy for herself. Will she survive the post-election period or will she "disappear"? It has happened before, and it can happen again as a stern warning to anyone else who may have thoughts and dreams of freedom.

However, even the Marcoses of this world cannot go on for ever. The President is already a sick man and one day soon he will go the way that all mortal flesh go and

he will stand before his God and try to justify his full prisons and his illiterate hungry people; his own sumptuous wealth and his regime of oppression and corruption. Should we not pray for him that he might experience some sort of conversion before that dread moment comes? For perhaps of all people in the Philippines none stands in greater poverty and need than he does.

But he added, "the statement doesn't change our position on 242."

Mr. Khalaf said he had a "positive and fruitful" meeting on Saturday with the King and Prime Minister Zaid Rifai. He said two prominent Palestinian figures from the Israeli-occupied territories, Jerusalem newspaper editor Hanna Simora and Gaza lawyer Fayez Abu Rahme, had relayed a proposal on Saturday to U.S. Middle East envoy Wat Cluversius. "He told them I am seeing you in a personal capacity," but indicated he would pass on their ideas without responding.

"The PLO formula is not for bargaining," Mr. Khalaf said. "We will not accept 242 unless the Americans send something endorsing self-determination" within a confederation with Jordan.

But he later appeared to leave room for negotiation, saying that if the two sides agreed on the basics, "it shouldn't be mere phrases that are an obstacle to an issue as

big as peace in the area."

Asked what he meant by self-determination, Mr. Khalaf said, "A Palestinian homeland in which a Palestinian has independence, a passport, and political identity, and that homeland would be confederated with Jordan."

He said that formula "would be accepted by Arafat and any Palestinian, inside or outside the PLO."

Mr. Khalaf said that Jordan and the PLO had agreed their relationship would remain good even if the PLO did not accept 242.

He said he did not expect any more answers from the United States and said PLO officials were remaining in Amman for several days "because we don't want it to seem like there is a big break with Jordan."

On his meeting with the King, Mr. Khalaf said: "His Majesty assured me that Jordan-PLO relations would not be affected by recent discussions despite differences of opinion on 242."

Peres says he will continue peace efforts despite obstacles

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Arafat did not refer to the PLO stand on 242 in the interview. But Salah Khalaf, who is one of his top aides, said in Amman that the PLO would not accept 242 unless the Americans endorsed the Palestinian right to self-determination.

Mr. Arafat said the PLO has submitted a formula for the proposed international conference on the basis that it be an "arbitration body."

"The conference should be attended by the superpowers and the permanent members of the Security Council, be a conference of arbiters, and be empowered to issue resolutions," Mr. Arafat said.

He said that Syria, as well as Jordan, endorsed that formula.

Khalaf finds U.S. statements encouraging

Mr. Khalaf told three reporters in Amman on Sunday that he was

encouraged by U.S. statements on Palestinian rights, but said the organisation needed more progress before it would accept U.S. conditions for dealing with the PLO.

"Anyone who cannot see any progress in Jordan's efforts with the Americans is not objective," said Mr. Khalaf.

Mr. Khalaf said the PLO still insisted on recognition of Palestinian self-determination before it would accept Resolution 242.

In a hotel-room interview with the three reporters, Mr. Khalaf said he saw progress in American acceptance of a proposed international conference on Arab-Israeli peace, its conditional acceptance of PLO participation in peace talks and a recent State Department statement noting that the Palestinian problem "is more than a que PLO, but on the contrary has scored a point in his personal efforts when he secured on his last trip to the United States of refugees."



he will stand before his God and try to justify his full prisons and his illiterate hungry people; his own sumptuous wealth and his regime of oppression and corruption. Should we not pray for him that he might experience some sort of conversion before that dread moment comes? For perhaps of all people in the Philippines none stands in greater poverty and need than he does.

LETTERS

May his soul rest in peace

To the Editor

IN connection with a letter to the Editor by Mrs. Mavis Uzaizi which was published in the Jan. 30-31 issue of the Jordan Times, I would like to say that if one were to again read carefully the articles of Mr. Fakhri Kawar which was published in the Jan. 12 issue of Al Rai and in the Jan. 20 issue of the Jordan Times and the letters of Mr. Contreras to the Editor of Al Rai, published in the Jan. 17 issue of the newspaper, and his letter to the Editor of the Jordan Times published in the Jan. 22 issue, many inaccuracies in the letter of Mrs. Uzaizi could be noticed. For example, Mr. Contreras did not "try his best to ruin the victim's character." Neither did he mention "poor peace-loving Filipino youths." In Mr. Kawar's article, he mentioned several times that Salah was killed in the Philippines. Mrs. Uzaizi, on the other hand, mentioned in her letter "murder" "horrible murder" and "horribly slaughtered." I believe there is a big difference in the meanings of killing, horrible murder and horrible slaughter. All that Mr. Contreras mentioned about the late Salah Ayoub was that he "was deeply grieved to learn of the death in Manila, Philippines of ... Salah Ayoub" ... that he believes that Salah "was not murdered by three young Filipinos;" and that the unofficial report he received "mentioned that Salah was very drunk at around three o'clock in the morning, was acting wildly and spending much money, and in the process picked a quarrel with Filipino boys which led to violence." It is clear that Mr. Contreras only mentioned the unofficial report he received and never for once did he try his best to ruin or defame the victim's character.

On the other hand it seems that Mrs. Uzaizi is the one who is trying to ruin the reputation of Mr. Contreras when she said in her letter that "Mr. Contreras certainly lacks diplomacy and tact and caused more grief to the Ayoub family by robbing their dead son of his good character and traits."

Mrs. Afaf D. Halabi
P.O. Box 925207
Amman, Jordan

Scientists grope for ways to halt advance of desert

By Mercer Cross
National Geographic

TUCSON, Ariz. — The deserts creep relentlessly forward, pushing more and more of the world's people into poverty, destitution, and starvation.

A chart depicting a clock, titled "The Time Bomb of Desertification," forecast the future with apocalyptic gloom:

"It is now 4:48 p.m.," the caption read. At the current rate of desertification, in a little less than 200 years, "There will not be a single, fully productive hectare of land on earth. It will be earth's midnight."

Moreover, the message continued, "We can expect the rate to increase as less land is exploited by more people. We can also be sure that a major socio-economic catastrophe of cataclysmic proportions would engulf the earth long before the last hectare succumbed. We are already feeling the first tremors of that catastrophe."

Defusing bomb of sand

The chart illustrated a paper by Dr. Mostafa Tolba, the Egyptian executive director of the United Nations Environment Programme, based in Nairobi, Kenya. His audience was some 400 scientists from 38 nations who were searching for ways to defuse the time bomb of desertification, the loss of productive lands.

Those crop and grazing lands are disappearing rapidly for a variety of reasons, among them overgrazing, fuelwood-gathering, agricultural expansion on marginal soil, and conversion to non-farm uses.

Each year, Tolba said, about 67 million acres of land are added to the approximately 8.6 billion acres already affected. That leaves about 12.9 billion acres of remaining productive land worldwide, he said.

Unless agricultural output are increased and long-term conservation measures are implemented, Tolba calculates, 64 countries will have critical food

shortages by 2000. "It is most unlikely that the developed world could manage to make up the deficit," he said. "Given the current trend, I do not wish to contemplate the year 2025."

Tolba's comments set the tone for the conference, sponsored by the University of Arizona and its Office of Arid Lands Studies. It was described as the largest interdisciplinary conference on these issues in more than 25 years.

Arid lands are now home to 850 million people, 19 per cent of the world's population. The number is expected to increase to 1.2 billion by 2000. An overwhelming majority of those affected live in underdeveloped countries. Africa is the continent with the grimmest forecast.

Scientists keep trying

The turnout for the conference was evidence that the world's scientific community, despite the generally pessimistic undertone of the proceedings, hasn't given up. Solutions are still being pursued, nationally and internationally, as they have been since the end of World War II.

This was evident at the Tucson conference, a hard-working, no-nonsense gathering that compressed dozens of technical papers, numerous plenary-session speeches, and several round-table discussions into five long days late in October.

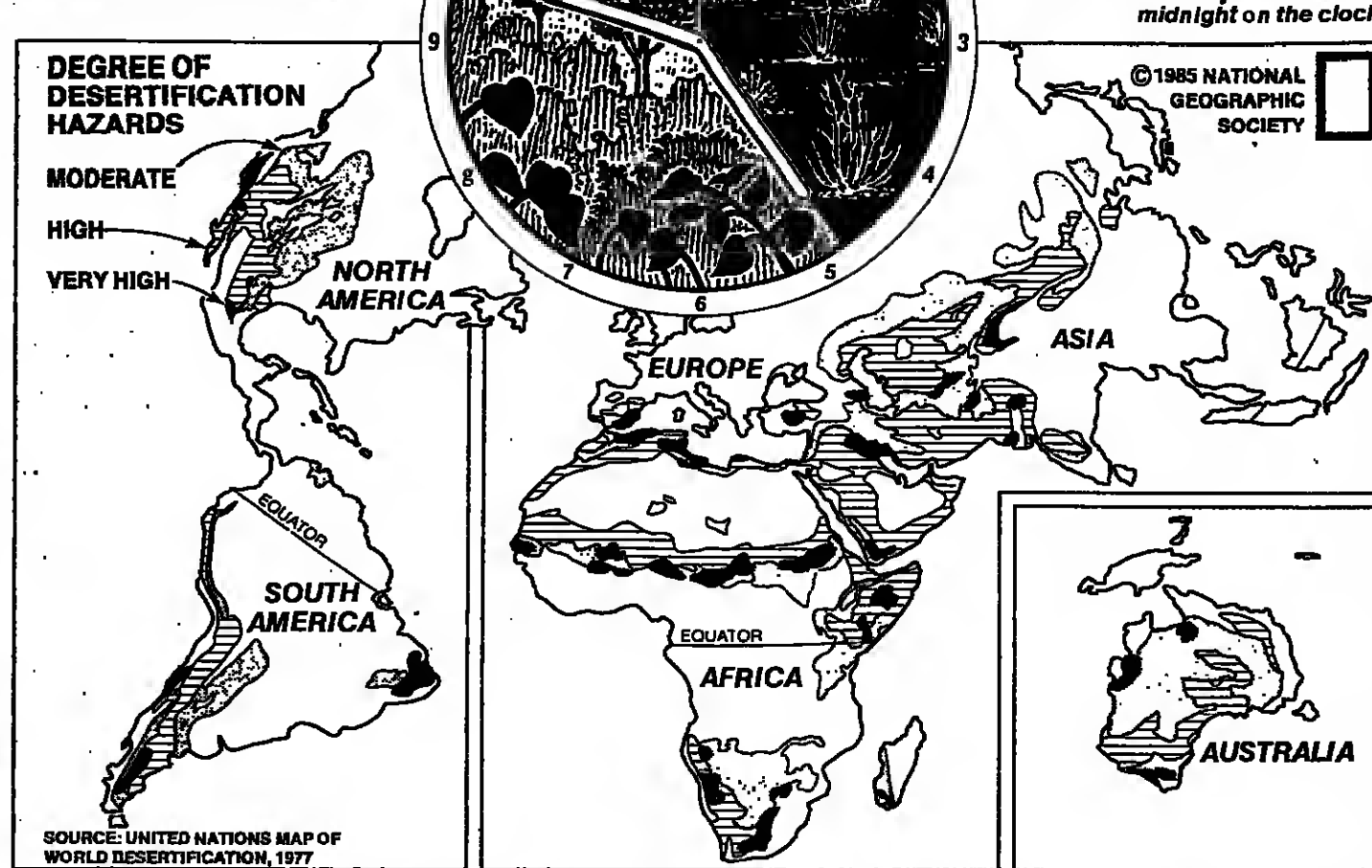
The technical sessions covered a broad range of arid-lands problems: climate, plants, animals, water, ecology, agriculture, housing, urban growth, economic development.

A common theme was the need for coordinated planning by the affected peoples themselves. "Our failure has been mainly a failure of political and governmental institutions," said Dr. Wilford Gardner of the University of Arizona.

"The problem with water is people," said Dr. Robert M. Hagan of the University of California, who urged more community-level involvement. "We need to have more of a

Desertification Time Bomb

Without better management of arid lands, the relentless spread of deserts will mean starvation and destitution, particularly in the areas of high risk shown here.



bottom-up approach, less of a top-down approach," he said.

Dr. Joseph R. Goodin of Texas Tech University voiced the frustration expressed by several other scientists over translating their concerns into political and economic action. "We seem to be talking to each other, but we're not talking to the right people," he said. "If we're talking to the pol-

iticians, they're certainly not listening."

Says balance elusive

One of the few political scientists at the conference was Dr. Henry Canfield of Colorado State University, a political activist who served in the Interior Department during the Kennedy

administration.

"The way we intellectualise in developing these areas," he said in an interview, "we never can seem to get a balance in these meetings between the political and economic and social versus the technical."

In one of the concluding speeches of the conference, Dr. Gilbert White of the University of

"IT IS NOW 4:48 P.M. . . . Every minute on this hypothetical clock, almost 30 million acres of formerly productive land are made barren. At this rate of 67 million acres per year, there will be no fertile land left in about 200 years — Earth's midnight on the clock."

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Gandhi admired some Christian doctrines but not Christianity

By Robert H. Reid
The Associated Press

NEW DELHI — Mohandas K. Gandhi, whose words of non-violence and brotherhood were echoed by Pope John Paul II, admired many Christian teachings but rejected both Christianity and its efforts to win converts.

In an appeal for religious harmony, the Pontiff, who arrived Saturday on a 10-day visit, went to the spot on the Jamuna River where Gandhi was cremated. There, he reminded his audience of the words of Jesus "with which the Mahatma was very familiar" — blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Although Gandhi, a Hindu, admired and quoted frequently from Jesus' sermon on the Mount, from which the passage came, he also believed that the Christian religion did not live up to its own creed and was not the only path to God.

"If I had to face only the sermon on the Mount and my own interpretation of it, I should not hesitate to say, 'oh yes, I am a Christian,'" he told a young men's Christian association audience in Sri Lanka in 1927.

"But negatively, I can tell you that much of what passes for Christianity is a negation of the sermon on the Mount. And please mark by words, I am not speaking of Christian conduct."

Gandhi, known as the Mahatma or "great soul," accepted Christian ideals of equality, service to fellow men and social justice.

But the Indian independence leader rejected Christian teachings — including that mankind's salvation was possible only by following Jesus Christ and that Christianity was the "true religion."

"All faiths contain a revelation of truth," Gandhi wrote. "But they are imperfect and liable to

error."

As a Hindu, Gandhi had little trouble accepting certain doctrines of other religions while not abandoning his own. Unlike Christianity, Hinduism has few generally accepted dogmas but is rather a collection of traditions which developed in India over more than 2,000 years.

The Vaishnava sect worships the god Vishnu as the supreme deity, the Shaivites the god Shiva, while yet another sect, the Smartas, believe in all Hindu deities and worship according to personal preference.

During his life, Gandhi became friends with many Christian clerics and missionaries. In 1903, while living in South Africa, he joined a group of Christians called "The Seekers Club," which studied scriptures of various religions.

However, he personally disapproved of efforts to convert people to other religions.

"Make us better Hindus, he once told a group of visiting missionaries. "That would be more Christian."

Militant Hindu groups have accused the Pontiff of coming to India to win converts, a charge refuted by Indian church officials. Militants shouted slogans against the Pope before his arrival and burned him in effigy in the second demonstration here against the visit in two days.

Despite his objections to conversions, Gandhi believed Christian missionary activity in India had a positive effect of challenging Hindus to invigorate their own religion.

"The indirect influence of Christianity has been to quicken Hinduism into life," Gandhi wrote. In particular, the Mahatma hoped that gains made by missionaries among the "untouchables," the lowest Hindu social group, would encourage upper-caste Indians to treat them better.

Versatile dromedaries may offer starvation insurance in deserts

By Mercer Cross
National Geographic

TUCSON, Ariz. — Camels may not win beauty contests, but they take high honours for their adaptability to some of the earth's harshest climates.

One-humped camels, or dromedaries, for example, have been serving the desert-dwellers of Africa and the Middle East for thousands of years, building a legendary reputation for toughness and endurance as "ships of the desert."

Now, if an Israeli physiologist has his way, one-humped camels will become an important factor in reducing mass starvation in these drought-plagued regions.

How would they do it? With their milk, says Dr. Reuven Yagil, a member of the health sciences faculty at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Beersheva.

Self-sufficient in drought

"Camel farming is one of the ways that will make farmers self-sufficient in time of drought,"

Yagil and co-author Z. Etzion wrote in a paper presented to an international conference on "arid lands last month in Tucson."

While emphasizing that camels should co-exist with, not replace, traditional animals such as cattle, sheep, and goats, "during periods of drought they will be the mainstay of food production," they wrote. Look at all camels have going for them:

— Even when drinking water is scarce and brackish, camels continue to produce highly nutritious, vitamin-filled milk. In the driest weather, camels' milk production remains high enough to "keep numerous people alive."

— When "fodder is minimal and spread over a vast area," camels get enough to eat. They are browsers that wander as far as 30 miles a day and eat almost anything, including thorny bushes. "I call it natural pruning," Yagil said in an interview. And unlike cows, sheep, and goats, camels relish salty desert plants.

— Camel milk stays sweet for a long time. "Whereas milk of most mammals sours within days, even

when kept in a refrigerator, camel milk remains virtually unchanged after three months of storage."

Despite all these advantages, however, camels have an image problem: They've traditionally been a milk source only for nomadic tribes, and they're viewed as a throwback to more primitive, unmechanized times.

Contrary to their reputation as wanderers, Yagil said, camels prosper in stalls. He's been experimenting with penned-up camels for 15 years. "The idea is that this could be a farming method for the thousands of people who have left farming and moved to the city looking for some kind of sustenance," he said.

Reproduce slowly

Another negative factor has been camels' slow reproductive performance. Female nomadic camels sometimes don't give birth until they are seven years old. But through the use of hormonal injections, the birth process has been speeded up by four years in stall-fed camels.



Arabian dromedary camels make the most of their sparse and timeless habitat, while progress in the form of a telephone line etches the horizon. With their ability to browse off almost any vegetation, including thorny bushes and salty plants that other

ungulates scorn, camels continue to produce milk in the driest weather. Dr. Reuven Yagil suggests that they could help ward off mass starvation in times of drought.

Yagil, a consultant to the Food and Agriculture Organisation and author of a new book on camels, said the FAO has set up demonstration camel farms in several countries, including the Sudan and Kenya, with more planned.

By next spring, using a "crisis team," he hopes to present the FAO with the numbers and locations of milk camels in Ethiopia and other countries. Then he expects to sent out demonstration teams to show reluctant farmers how effective camels can be.

And sometime in the future, Yagil said, he foresees solar-energy-powered camel-milking machines to increase the quantity of milk that will be distributed where it will do the most good.

100 years on, Mercedes-maker heads for the top

By Tony Carritt
Reuters

STUTTGART, West Germany — Exactly 100 years after its founding fathers built their first motor vehicles, Daimler-Benz, maker of Mercedes cars and trucks, is poised to become West Germany's biggest industrial concern.

The Stuttgart-based company has for decades been the backbone of Germany's vehicle industry. Chosen by the powerful and the rich, its emblems with the familiar three-point star on the nose have become a symbol of the best in German engineering.

Today Daimler-Benz ranks third on the list of West Germany's companies in terms of sales.

Next month, providing the country's Anti-Trust Authority gives the green light, it will move to the top of the corporate league when it buys electrical group AEG.

The takeover, West Germany's biggest, will catapult Daimler-Benz into the high-technology era as it celebrates the 100th birthday of what is held to be Germany's first car — a three-wheeler with a top speed of 15 km an hour.

Developed by engineer Carl Benz, the petrol-driven vehicle was patented on January 29, 1886 and unveiled to an astonished public on July 3 of that year.

The company's year-long series of special events also fetes its other founder, Gottlieb Daimler, who, together with his assistant Wilhelm Maybach, developed a

four-wheeled "motor coach" independently of Benz the same year. For Daimler-Benz, Daimler and Benz were the fathers of the car. But its claim to the breakthrough is not unchallenged.

France's motor industry says a Frenchman, Edouard Delamare-Deboutville, was first with a four-wheeler patented in 1884 that is said to have been the first petrol-driven vehicle driven on a street.

France duly celebrated the automobile's centenary in 1984.

The French inventor, however, later abandoned self-propelled carriages, leaving the field open to the Germans to claim the title of initiating the development of the commercial motor car.

By a quirk of fate, Daimler, whose firm's cars were officially named Mercedes from 1902 after a daughter of its biggest customer, never met Benz.

The company that bears their names was created in 1926, 26 years after Daimler's death and three years before Benz's, when the post-World War One depression forced the firms to merge.

Sixty years later, Daimler-Benz's transformation into a high-technology group also reflects the pressures of the day.

With AEG and the takeovers of engine-maker MTU and Aerospace group Dornier last year, it is acquiring the know-how it will need as the car becomes an increasingly high-tech product and international competition gets tougher.

And by creating a technology "leg," it is harnessing a source of



Automobile manufacturers are turning to making vehicles that run on sources of energy other than petrol. Germany's Mercedes Benz has come out with a sunmobile pictured above.

extra revenue to cushion it against any future downturn in its traditional car and truck business.

Along with its competitors, Daimler-Benz has been hit by a slump in worldwide demand for trucks, a sector which brings in 40 per cent of its turnover.

But the runaway success of its latest generation of cars has given the company more financial muscle than ever before.

Speared by the sporty, "Baby-Benz" compact saloons that has rejuvenated the company's conservative image, sales are booming at home and abroad. Customers have to wait months.

Amidst the centenary celebrations, analysts expect Daimler-Benz to announce record worldwide after-tax earnings approaching 1.5 billion marks (\$620 million) for 1985, twice as much as the slightly bigger Volkswagen concern.

With AEG the group will be stronger, with a workforce of 300,000 and turnover of more than 60 billion marks (\$25 billion).

The takeovers will also make it the country's biggest defence contractor.

When they are complete, it will be making everything from sports

cars to space satellites — thanks to its acquisition of Dornier — to steam irons and vacuum cleaners.

Its share price has soared. But what is good for Daimler-Benz is not seen by everyone as good for West Germany.

The prospect of such concentrated power has provoked unease among some businessmen and politicians and forced the government to mull tightening merger controls.

It has also thrown a spotlight on the huge — some say excessive — influence of the Deutsche Bank, the automobile group's biggest shareholder, which is widely be-

lieved to have played a decisive role in pairing it off with AEG.

One hundred years ago the success of Daimler-Benz seemed less than assured. The public's initial reaction to what was dubbed the "Devil's Carriage" was more of bewilderment than enthusiasm.

But the idea gradually caught on.

Grouping names like Volkswagen — whose "Beetle" is the most bought car of all time — Porsche, BMW, Audi and Opel, West Germany's motor industry is today the world's third biggest and source of one in seven jobs at home.

Reagan's freedom fighters' bring human sufferings to Nicaragua

By Matthew Campbell
Reuters

MANAGUA — Locked in an increasingly bloody conflict with U.S.-backed insurgents, Nicaragua is for the first time facing one of the grimmest side effects of modern warfare.

Hundreds of Nicaraguans have been left permanently disabled by bullets, mines and grenades. The sight of war veterans in wheelchairs, most in their teens or early twenties, has become increasingly common.

With reports emerging from Washington that President Reagan is to request up to \$80 million in aid for the guerrilla "contras," Nicaragua's left-wing government expects no swift end to the bloodshed in which more than 11,000 Nicaraguans have lost their lives since 1982.

Defence Minister Humberto Ortega recently said the guerrillas though "strategically" defeated, would continue to inflict serious blows in months and years to come.

The number of permanently disabled has grown yearly, parallel to an escalation in the fighting which last year culminated in the use by guerrillas of a sophisticated heat-seeking surface-to-air missile.

The government has built several rehabilitation centres to help war veterans come to terms with disfigurement and permanent disability.

But with half the national budget spent on defence, funds for specialised medical attention are scarce, officials say.

Frequent flights leave for Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and East Germany carrying up to 100 disabled soldiers at a time in need of sophisticated surgery and artificial limbs.

"It's an enormous problem for a small country like Nicaragua," said Auxiliadora Perez Alonso, head of the Gaspar Garcia Liviana Rehabilitation Centre for the disabled.

"When I was young, it was very rare to see people in wheelchairs or blind people. Now it's very common," she said.

The number of Nicaraguans requiring artificial limbs rose to 600 in 1985 compared with an annual 50 before the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) came to power at the end of a broadly-based revolution in 1979.

"The war produces an average

three cripples a day," said Perez Alonso, whose son-in-law, an ex-serviceman, had both legs amputated after being wounded in a guerrilla attack in 1983.

The International Red Cross in a joint effort with the ministry of health is setting up a workshop at Managua's Aldo Obavaria hospital to train 50 Nicaraguans to make and fit artificial limbs.

"It's a service that will be needed for at least the next 40 years," a Red Cross official said. Most of the amputees are in their teens or twenties and the artificial limbs need regular adjusting as unused muscles shrink.

Twenty-eight-year-old Lucas Saenz, now training to be a tailor, lost both legs in a grenade blast in 1983, and had recently returned from East Germany, where doctors fitted him with two artificial limbs. It was his first trip abroad.

"For me it was a great affliction, knowing that I would never be able to walk and run again ... but worst of all was knowing that I would not be able to go back to fight."

Marvin Flores, 22, said he did not understand the policy of the Reagan administration, which accuses Nicaragua of exporting Marxist revolution in Central America.

"Giving aid to them (the guerrillas) means pain, pain for mothers, for fathers, for children it means death, destruction, and suffering," said Flores, partially paralysed by a bullet that pierced his neck in 1984.

An information leaflet distributed by the Social Security Ministry argued that based on population, Nicaraguans lives lost in the war would be equivalent proportionately to 999,331 lives in the United States.

"Recall the impact of the Vietnam war — the U.S. lost 58,600 lives," the leaflet said.

It said the guerrillas — estimated by the ministry at 15,000 — would, if related to the U.S. population, number over a million.

"Imagine the effect of a well-equipped mercenary army, over one million strong, attacking the U.S. from protected bases in Canada and Mexico an army artificially strengthened by a foreign superpower," said the leaflet.

"Imagine these mercenaries roaming under cover of dense forests, ambushing vehicles, attacking farmers in the fields, shelling isolated towns and cold-bloodedly murdering entire families," it added.

DFB chief proposes reform of Bundesliga

BONN (R) — Plans for a major reform of the West German Bundesliga, including a cut from 18 to 16 teams, were announced by the president of the West German Football Federation (DFB) Hermann Neuberger Monday.

The West German sports agency S.I.D. said Neuberger gave details of the plans to reporters in Vietri Sul Mare, Italy, where the national team is training for Wednesday's friendly international with Italy in Avellino.

Neuberger's reforms also include an extension of the mid-winter break from six weeks to three months, more summer soccer and a national indoor championship.

He said the first division could be reduced to 16 clubs by the 1987-88 season and the second division cut from 20 teams, also to 16, at the same time.

He said the eight present regional leagues, mostly of 18 clubs, would be reduced to four leagues each of 16 teams.

The reforms have to be approved by the clubs at their annual congress in Bremen in October.

In the past, clubs have voted against any attempt to cut the number of teams in the Bundesliga but Neuberger expressed his determination to get reforms through this time.

"If the professional clubs remain unreasonable, we must take counter-action if need be," he said.

Bundesliga attendances have been falling steadily for years in

West Germany; dropping from a peak of 7.9 million in 1977-78 to just 5.8 million last season.

Last month, first division trainers called for a winter break from the end of November to the beginning of March and more football in the summer months, arguing that wintry weather was a major factor in low attendances.

The season usually ends early in June and resumes in mid-August.

Neuberger said he still favoured a summer break because many fans were on holiday but thought it should be a much shorter pause.

Neuberger's reported plans were immediately welcomed by the country's two biggest clubs, Bayern Munich and Hamburg.

But small first division side Bochum expressed disquiet, saying it would lose revenue from two home matches if the league was cut.

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Bundesliga attendances have been falling steadily for years in

Late Manuel goal saves Benfica's lead

LISBON (R) — Benfica kept their one-point lead in the Portuguese championship Sunday by beating Setubal 1-0 thanks to a brilliant late goal by midfielder Carlos Manuel.

Lisbon rivals Sporting maintained their challenge by overwhelming Braga 4-0. Porto beat Aves 2-0 to stay two points behind the leaders.

Benfica were repeatedly denied by Setubal's young goalkeeper Miguel, before Manuel, recently recovered from injury, finally came to the rescue.

After a jinking run which left two defenders floundering, he hammered home a shot from just inside the area four minutes from time.

Manuel scored the winning goal against West Germany last October which put Portugal into the World Cup Finals.

Porto's Fernando Gomes, another certain World Cup choice, showed he has lost none of his goal-scoring talent by netting two against Aves. He scored from a penalty after two minutes and struck again after the interval

from a pass by Juarez.

Sporting captain Manuel Fernandes, involved in a long dispute over selection for the national side with Portugal's trainer Jose Torres, again staked his claim to a World Cup place by scoring three of his side's four goals against Braga.

Fernandes heads the scoring list with 19 goals, ahead of Brazilian Paulo Cascavel of Guimaraes on 17.

The Sporting striker, who has not been picked for Portugal for over a year after complaining he spent too much time on the substitutes' bench, recently made his peace with Torres, raising hopes he may soon re-appear in the Portuguese team.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Iraq beats Denmark 2-0 in friendly

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq bounced back from a 2-0 defeat at the hands of Denmark on Friday to turn the tables and beat the Danes 2-0 Sunday in a World Cup warm-up match. Hussein Sa'ed scored the first Iraqi goal on a penalty kick in the 43rd minute, and Natiq Hashim sealed the victory with a second goal in the 55th minute.

Brazil may miss European friendlies

FRANKFURT, West Germany (R) — Hungary may step in to replace Brazil in a friendly international with West Germany in Frankfurt on March 12, the National Soccer Federation said Monday. Brazil had asked for the World Cup warm-up game to be put back until the end of April after new trainer Tele Santana said his team's European tour had been planned too early. But the West German federation said April did not fit in with their World Cup preparations and that they had sent a telex to Brazil calling for the March 12 date to be honoured. They said Hungary, who also had a fixture arranged with Brazil, would only step in if the Brazilians refused to play.

Ford to enter Swedish rally

LONDON (R) — Ford has announced a two-car entry in the Swedish Rally later this month — the company's first appearance in the world championship for more than six years. Former world champion Stig Blomqvist of Sweden and West German rally champion Kalle Grondel will give the new mid-engined RS200 its international debut. The 1,670 kilometre event, second round of the 1986 championship, starts in Karlstad on February 14. Ford's return to a sport in which they were once extremely successful follows approval of their manufacturing facilities by International Motor Sport Federation (FISA) officials.

Jabbar's 40 points not enough to stop Knicks

NEW YORK (AP) — With all that has gone wrong this season, the New York Knicks were glad to see something go right... very right.

Sunday night, second-year player Ken Bannister scored 18 points as the Knicks defeated Los Angeles 103-96 and broke the

Lakers' three-game winning streak. The Knicks have won three of their last four.

"We're happy to win, especially on the road," Knicks coach Hubie Brown said.

The Knicks woo despite a 40-point performance by the Lakers' Kareem Abdul Jabbar, and a cold shooting spell that saw their own Patrick Ewing miss 12 straight field goal attempts, finishing with nine points.

In Sunday's other NBA games, Boston defeated Seattle 114-101, Indiana beat Chicago 121-106 and Dallas defeated Utah 100-97.

Celtics 114, SuperSonics 101.

The Celtics improved their home record to 21-1 with their 11th straight victory, rallying in the third period behind Scott Wedman and Dennis Johnson to beat Seattle.

Thys fears Belgium's 'easy draw'

By Raf Casert
Associated Press Writer

BRUSSELS, Belgium — Unpredictability is its blessing and its curse and could bring Belgium's national soccer squad fame or shame at the 1986 Mexico World Cup.

"We can beat anyone. We don't have to be afraid of anyone, but we can have a lot of trouble with third and fourth-rated teams," according to coach Guy Thys.

For Thys, the mundial will cap 10 years of notable ups, such as a 1-0 win over defending world champion Argentina in the 1982 mundial and reaching the 1980 European Championship final.

But Thys, 63, has also known some downs.

A 2-0 thrashing in Tirana against soccer dwarf Albania last winter was the low point of Belgium's qualifying round for Mexico. It needed typically contrasting performances against powerhouses like Poland and The Netherlands to go to Mexico.

In first-round action in Mexico City and Toluca the Belgians will clash with underdogs Mexico, Paraguay and Iraq. But Thys is doing no cartwheels.

Playing Mexico "in the Aztec Stadium, before 110,000 people, at noon time, in the steaming heat? That is a tall order," he said in an interview, discarding all talk of a "weak" group.

Playing the other games in nearby Toluca, 2,680 metres above sea level, will also hamper the team, he said. "I'm convinced we will not be able to develop our usual game plan. We will lose 10 to 15 per cent of our effectiveness," he said.

That effectiveness comes from physical strength rather than technical finesse. Thys has forged a very cohesive, disciplined squad, one that must rely heavily on team effort.

"Our discipline is best expressed in games against strong teams, in which mental preparation is important," said Thys.

Belgian motivation has been surprisingly lax against weaker opponents, a fact Thys ascribes to "the mentality of the Belgian player... there is nothing to do about that."

As they prepare for Mexico, "my players will realise it will not be as easy" as it looks on paper. Thys said he hoped it will help concentration, the main cause of the team's unpredictability.

With the altitude problems in Mexico, Thys will move to a more "technical" game plan. If Thys has a player fit for that purpose, it would be 19-year-old prodigy Enzo Scifo.

Italian-born Scifo took the Belgian league by storm last year. Although he has fallen on tough times of late, the Anderlecht player

has a pivotal role in the Belgian squad.

Thys is arguably Europe's most successful coach. He took Belgium to the last two World Cup and European Championships.

Since the 1982 mundial he has rejuvenated two thirds of his team while maintaining overall cohesion.

Belgium's most recent fortunes in international soccer have coincided with a tarnishing of soccer's image at home.

Last May, 39 people died in riots at the European Champions Cup final between Liverpool and Juventus in Brussels' Heysel Stadium. In the year before that, the Belgian soccer world was rocked by tax fraud and a bribery scandal involving top team Standard Liege.

"The credibility of our soccer suffered a lot and qualifying for Mexico has made amends," said Thys.

In a country sharply divided by two languages, Thys' exploits have been a remarkable unifying force. After Belgium won a hard-fought qualification round for Mexico against archrival Holland last fall, this country of 10 million practically cheered in unison.

In the wake of Belgium's inglorious performance in Tirana, some French-language newspapers accused Thys of having too many Dutch-speakers

Graf gets no sympathy from Lloyd

KEY BISCAINE, Florida (R) — Top-seeded Chris Evert Lloyd scored a 6-3, 6-1 victory over second seed Steffi Graf of West Germany to win a \$250,000 women's tennis tournament Sunday.

It was Lloyd's fifth career win against the 16-year-old Graf, who had looked like a champion earlier this week but against the world's second-ranked player seemed like just another victim.

After losing the 36-minute first set Graf came back strongly, breaking Lloyd in the first game of the second. Then in the second game, with the score advantage-Lloyd, the American played a long, baseline shot which was ruled in.

The call so flustered the West German teenager that she was unable to recover and regain her concentration.

"After that bad call I just couldn't concentrate anymore. It was such an important point," said Graf, who has yet to beat Lloyd.

"If I had won that game the match would have been a lot tighter and she probably would have been more nervous."

"At the end I just didn't know what to do anymore, and I made some really easy errors," she said. Lloyd went on to win 13 of the last 14 points to claim her first title of the year, worth \$40,000.

Lloyd did not have much sympathy for Graf, who earned \$20,000. "If you feel you've got that bad call, you've got to block it out of your mind and go on to the next point. If she couldn't work that out, it was her problem."

"I've been very pleased with my play this week," said Lloyd. "I felt great in all of my matches, and even after match point, I felt I could have played another set or two. It's a long year ahead of me though, and I don't know if I'll be able to play like this every single tournament."

Own goal gives Real victory

MADRID (R) — An own goal decided the battle of the Spanish capital's soccer giants Sunday, as Athletic defender Miguel Ruiz headed Real Madrid to a 1-0 win.

The result gave Real a four-point lead at the top of the Spanish league, champions Barcelona slipping back in second place after drawing 0-0 in Seville.

Ruiz's fateful error came in the 16th minute when he intercepted a long shot by Real midfielder Michel Gonzalez but his header looped neatly into his own net, wrong-footing Athletic's Arg-

entine goalkeeper Ubaldo Fillol. Athletic, the home team, attacked enthusiastically during the remainder of the match but were thwarted by Real's solid defence.

Barcelona gave a lacklustre performance, pushing forward with conviction only in the last 10 minutes. They sorely missed the influence of their West German captain Bernd Schuster in midfield, and Scottish striker Steve Archibald who were both injured.

Athletic Bilbao stayed in third place nine points behind Real with a comfortable 2-0 home win over bottom club Cadiz.

Jose Noriega scored first with a header in the 35th minute. Captain Dani Ruiz claimed the second from a goalmouth scramble two minutes into the second half.

Real's victory moved them to the top of the league table.

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TO: THE AMERICAN WOMEN OF AMMAN

On behalf of my teaching staff, the pupils, and myself in Baqa' Camp Prep. BIS. No. 4. We cordially thank you and Mrs. Leila Wahbi for the valuable and lovely books you have donated to enrich our school library.

Ahmad Ayyad Wahidi
H/Teacher
Baqa' Prep. BIS. No. 4
3.2.1986

SHARPSHOOTERS

Canon 70

Win a fabulous Canon 70 camera or super prizes of Canon lenses and 35mm film in the 3M Canon Sharpshooters Competition. Last date for entry January 31st, 1986.

Are you a keen photographer?

Then all you have to do to enter is to give us your best original colour shot on the theme of either speed or light accompanied by an empty 35mm film box and full details of where and when you took your photograph. Ask for details and an entry form at your nearest photographic store today.

WIN Competition extended to April 30, 1986.

Canon 3M

WANTED
Arabic/English Translator

Must have excellent knowledge of Arabic with ability to translate into fluent idiomatic English. University education and good working knowledge of current world affairs required. Shiftwork required. Starting annual salary JD 2,946 plus benefits.

Send resumes to: Personnel Office, P.O. Box 354, Amman

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE SCHOOL

The International Baccalaureate School invites applications for the following posts for September 1986:

1. MATHEMATICS TEACHER, competent to teach to GCE 'O' and 'A' level.
2. BIOLOGY TEACHER, competent to teach to GCE 'O' and 'A' level.
3. ENGLISH TEACHER, to teach language and literature throughout Senior School. Must be a native speaker of English and must have a minimum of three years' EFL experience in a school.
4. TEACHER OF GIRLS' PE for Senior School. Must be able to offer a specialist sport or sports, such as judo, fencing, gymnastics, in addition to normal class activities.
5. TWO PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS for grades 1-2 and grades 4-6. Must be native speakers of English, fully qualified, and with at least 3 years' experience.
6. MUSIC TEACHER, competent to teach Music to GCE 'O' and 'A' level.
7. TEACHER OF CRAFT, DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY, competent to teach to GCE 'O' level.

Application forms are available from the school. The closing date for applications is Wednesday 12 February, and interviews will take place shortly after this date.

FOR RENT
Modern furnished apartments

- Studio of one bedroom K&B
- One bedroom, living room K&B
- Two bedrooms, living/dining room K&B

Central heating and telephones

Location: Jabal Amman between 3rd and 4th Circles
Tel. 641443, 642351

JORDAN PETROLEUM REFINERY CO. LTD.,
Tender Invitation No. 12/86
For the design, supply and installation of an Insulation System.

Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company invites specialised companies to submit their offers for the complete design, supply and installation of an insulation system for the Refinery Fuel Oil storage tanks Nos. 40, 41, 42, 381, 382, 383 at Zarqa site.

Documents of this tender are available at the offices of Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company, located at First Circle - Jabal Amman.

Documents price: JD 100 per set.
Offers should be submitted to the company's offices not later than 12.00 hours of 31st of March 1986.

Chairman

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Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket

Mongolian Barbeque for lunch and dinner FRIDAY

Tel: 818214
Come and taste our specialities

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m. 6:30 - Midnight

BRITISH LADIES OF AMMAN

Our meeting is to be held at the Regency Palace Hotel Wednesday 5th February, 10 a.m.

Mrs. Abu-Laban will be showing & talking about local embroidery.

Guests welcome Crèche available

YASMIN BEAUTY SALON

Our new telephone number is 815274. Welcome to our salon. With the compliments of Rashideh Khalaf.

The salon requires a highly-experienced hairdresser.

For interviews pls. call at the salon, located on Jabal Amman, Seventh Circle, behind the Engineers Housing Estate.

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Location: Behind Holiday Inn Hotel & near French School.
Call: 655273

MOVIES

<p>Cinema CONCORD Tel: 677420 BACK TO THE FUTURE (Colour) Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>Cinema RAINBOW Tel: 625155 MISCHIEF (Colour) Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30</p>	<p>Cinema Philadelphia Tel: 634144 - 634149 PERFECT (Colour) Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:15</p>	<p>Cinema RAGHADAN Tel: 622198 SHAKTHI (Indian) (Colour) Performances: 12:00, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00</p>	<p>Cinema OPERA Abdallah, behind Jalla offices Tel: 675573 THE SHARK HUNTER (Colour) Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30</p>
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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.3880/90	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.4280/85	Canadian dollars
	2.3902/12	West German marks
	2.6990/7000	Dutch guilders
	2.0272/82	Swiss francs
	48.80/85	Belgian francs
	7.3225/75	French francs
	1626/1627	Italian lire
	190.90/191.00	Japanese yen
	7.5200/75	Swedish crowns
	7.4500/75	Norwegian crowns
	8.7950/8050	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	347.40/347.90	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market closed lower in moderate volume amid concern over oil prices and easier sterling, dealers said. At 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 index was 9.8 down at 1425.2.

Government bonds held losses to around 1/2-point as sterling steadied on the foreign exchanges, dealers said.

British Leyland closed 6p up at 39. A press report said it is in talks with General Motors on the possible sale of its commercial vehicles operation. Major exporting companies gained from sterling's weakness with ICI 11p higher at 827.

Banks and insurances were lower, golds mixed but North Americans were high.

In lower oils B.P. shed 10p to 568 and Ultramar fell 4p to 211. Elsewhere Blue Circle declined 8p to 533 but BOC added 7p to 297. Jaguar rose 19p to 409 on U.S. demand, dealers said.

Stores declined on fears of higher interest rates. Burton fell 16p to 535. Extel closed 5p off at 366 following recent rejection of an offer for the company from Demerger Corp.

In lower banks Midland fell 10p to 424.

IMF head perceives new spirit to solve global debt problems

WASHINGTON (R) — International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Jacques De Larosiere Monday said there appeared to be a new movement afoot to solve the complex problems facing the global economy.

In a relatively optimistic assessment of the economic outlook, Mr. De Larosiere said a new debt initiative by the United States was a major step in a growing cooperative effort.

"It is perhaps not inappropriate to say that there is a new spirit to tackle the major — problems facing the world economy," Mr. De Larosiere said.

He called the recent crash in oil prices a major challenge that had to be addressed by the oil exporting countries and the economic system.

"The responsibilities of each of the major parties are heavy — but they are no greater than the stakes involved in the debt problem," he said.

Economists have expressed concern about the effect of the one-third drop in world oil prices since late November on debt-burdened producers such as Mexico and Venezuela.

But cheaper oil is a bonus to Latin America's other major debtors Brazil and Argentina, which are net oil importers.

Mr. De Larosiere, in discussing the new debt initiative, said it was significant that it was the United States that had taken the lead in the effort.

In the past, the Reagan administration has come under fire for an apparent reluctance to assist developing countries and give firm backing to the multilateral development agencies.

The initiative by Treasury Secretary James Baker, which calls for a \$20 billion infusion of new funds from commercial banks and \$27 billion from multilateral development banks, is evidence that the administration believes new approaches must be taken, some strategists say.

In addition, Mr. De Larosiere said there was now a recognition that long-standing economic problems in debtor countries had to be dealt with in a way that promised to promote durable economic growth.

He said he was encouraged by the backing the banking community had given to the Baker initiative. "No debt strategy can succeed without the active support and broad participation of commercial banks," he said.

Western summit leaders may bolster U.S. plan

Meanwhile, leaders of the seven leading industrial democracies will probably try to breathe new life into the faltering American plan to shore up the international debt situation when they meet in May, senior officials of these countries said Sunday night.

"We need to flush (the debt plan) out," said a French official, here for a top-level meeting to prepare for the May summit.

Although major banks have given tentative backing to the plan, it has faltered because of uncertainty over exactly how it would work.

"The summit leaders should give the plan their personal seal of approval and help it along," said one official.

Leaders from the seven summit nations — Britain, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, West Germany and the United States — are scheduled to debate key economic and political issues when they meet in Tokyo in May.

A senior American delegate to the weekend's preparatory talks here said the Baker initiative featured prominently in the discussions.

When it was first proposed last fall, the U.S. plan drew a warm response from both debtor nations and their creditors who saw it as signalling a change in Washington's attitude to the debt question.

"It meant that America was getting more actively involved," the French official said.

Since then, however, the initiative has run into practical difficulties.

Western officials said they are still uncertain over which of the 15 top debtor nations will be the first to qualify for the extra money available under the plan.

One delegate, however, expressed hopes that a suitable candidate will be found in the next few months.

The World Bank, which traditionally promotes the long-term development of the Third World, has also yet to sort out how it will grow into the expanded role as debt coordinator envisaged for it under the Baker plan.

Some delegates expressed frustration that the bank's ponderous bureaucracy, thus far had prevented it from meeting the challenge of defusing the global debt crisis.

Under the plan, the bank will be called on to beef up its lending over the next three years.

"Maybe the summit leaders could set out some specifics on how that might be achieved," said one Western official, who asked not to be identified further.

Delegates here also complained that the American debt proposal contained inherent contradictions that needed to be unravelled to make it work.

During the three years covered by the Baker initiative, for instance, the IMF, which polices the short-term problems of the world's economy, will actually be taking money from the Third World as repayments of past loans exceed new ones.

This flies in the face of the creditor role seen for the fund in a report issued last June by the 11 leading industrial democracies, its major shareholders.

There is also uncertainty over whether the world's monetary authorities should expand considerable energy trying to convince reluctant smaller banks to participate in the Baker initiative.

Yamani sees no pact between OPEC and other oil producers

JEDDAH (R) — Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani was quoted Monday as saying he saw no chance of an agreement between the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and oil producers outside the 13-nation group.

"I don't believe that OPEC by itself can reduce its production to a low enough level to maintain prices," he said in a statement to the Arabic-language newspaper Okaz.

Contacts with non-OPEC states such as Britain and Norway "have not yielded any positive results, and no possibility of reaching an agreement is visible on the horizon," he said.

The statement seemed certain to fuel expectations of a further drop in world oil prices, already depressed by fears of a price war between OPEC and non-OPEC producers.

OPEC decided in December to abandon a policy of trying to prop up prices by restricting output in favour of securing an undefined "fair share of the market."

Since then oil prices have tumbled as OPEC output has grown to an estimated 18.4 million barrels per day (b/d).

A special five-man OPEC committee met in Vienna Monday to define what should be the 13-nation group's market share and to figure out ways to defend it. Sheikh Yamani said he believed the committee would have a difficult task.

Iraq says non-OPEC must give way

In Baghdad Iraqi Oil Minister Qasem Ahmad Taqi said Monday an oil price war was inevitable unless non-OPEC producers accepted OPEC's right to what it deemed a fair share of the world oil market.

Mr. Taqi, before leaving Baghdad to attend the OPEC committee meeting in Vienna, told the government newspaper Al-Jumhuriya OPEC should hold an emergency conference on the current oil price slide.

"The current (oil price) situation must not continue...urgent measures must be taken to treat this situation," he said.

He said a full emergency meeting should be held in mid-February, after the committee meeting.

Mr. Taqi said OPEC's production should be 18 million b/d, about one third of total world oil demand.

The ministerial committee must "cope with prerequisites for development plans and financial obligations of OPEC's member states," he said.

Producers such as Venezuela and Nigeria, with heavy foreign debt burdens, face virtual bankruptcy as a result of the price slide, while even the wealthier Arab states have had to sharply reduce their budgets because of the drop in oil revenue.

He reiterated a call to OPEC and non-OPEC oil producers to avoid a price war by allowing OPEC to secure a "just share of the world oil market."

But he added that an OPEC "resolution to enter a price war would become inevitable if non-OPEC states did not respond to its justified demand." Al-Jumhuriya reported.

Talks unlikely to halt price slide, analysts say

In Vienna, industry analysts believe that the OPEC talks which opened Monday are unlikely to

halt the slide in world oil prices and may in fact accelerate it.

The analysts say a recommendation to raise the production ceiling at a time of weak prices would be an admission of OPEC's "inability to face market realities."

"OPEC needs to give a positive sign at this meeting that it has the will to act together in controlling the supply of oil. To increase the official quota now would just be a sign that the surplus will remain," one London-based analyst said.

But after years of seeing their market share wane as they cut back output to keep prices firm, many — but not all — OPEC members are ready to switch policy whatever the short-term cost.

"We made a decision in December to secure and defend a fair market share and that is what we are here to do, not to make cuts," a Gulf delegate said.

A possible compromise mentioned may be for the ministers to announce a fixed floor and ceiling output, between which it could vary with seasonal demand.

This might be acceptable to some OPEC members which oppose letting prices slide, but would be likely to meet stiff resistance from Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Arabia's readiness for a price war if necessary to force OPEC and non-OPEC producers to work together to restore market stability is the background against which the ministers here must work.

Malaysia launches ambitious master plan

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Malaysia Monday launched an ambitious plan to stake up its fledgling industries and put them on a competitive footing with other developing nations.

Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah told a packed meeting of businessmen and reporters the 22-volume plan for 1986-95 provided "a general direction and perspective for industrial development in the short, medium and long term."

The report forecasts real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to rise an average 6.4 per cent after inflation every year. GDP is the total value of goods and services produced by a nation.

The plan calls for tax and other incentives to prod entrepreneurs into boosting competition and cutting costs through a blend of free markets and government planning.

Businessmen surveyed after the presentation welcomed the incentives and the blunt appraisal of domestic economic problems offered. But they cautioned against too much optimism given Malaysia's current battering by world recession.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam told an economic forum in Switzerland last weekend that Malaysia's economy was growing by 4.8 per cent a year against a planned seven per cent and

that falling prices for oil, a key export, would cut targets further, slowing development and imports.

Malaysia's main exports of rubber, palm oil, timber, tin, oil and electronics are all suffering from low world prices and thousands of building workers sacked in its recession-hit neighbour Singapore are returning to a dwindling job market.

South Korean industrial expert, Mr. Seongjae Yu, one of a team who spent over two years drawing up the plan, said it aimed to boost manufacturing, maximise efficient use of Malaysia's abundant natural resources and expand the economy.

It would also lay the foundation to "leap-frog" Malaysia towards advanced industrialisation, missing out intermediate stages of development and fostering home-grown technology.

Malaysia had often relied too much on imported technology and know-how, he said.

He cited a "vicious chain" of problems which had hamstrung the growth of local industries. These included low competitiveness, shoddy and over-priced goods, high-cost production on a low scale and too few engineers or incentives.

The plan calls for industries to use more local resources like natural rubber, palm oil and tin —

ated market.

The grouping, the International Tin Council, met creditors in London last Friday to discuss how much each might pay towards a rescue package to reactivate world tin trading, the latest round in talks which have dragged on since October.

But progress on the package has been stalled, mainly over differences on how much those involved should pay towards the £270 million (\$380 million) package.

The package proposes setting up a company to buy up the tin council's 85,000-tonne stockpile and sell it off slowly to avoid depressing prices on a market already hit by recession and dwindling use of tin by traditional consumers.

Tin is being edged out of the canning market by aluminium, plastic and ever-thinner tin coatings on steel containers.

Scores of mines have closed in Malaysia, the world's biggest producer, putting thousands of people out of work. And the prospects are bleak, with huge stocks overhanging markets, industry sources said.

Thailand was due to stop posting a daily tin price Monday and take its reference point from the Kuala Lumpur tin market in the absence of tin trading on the world's main metal market, the London Metal Exchange, whose members are embroiled in the crisis talks.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, FEB. 4, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Opportunities are present today for you to make plans to take trips or to extend your interests and activities beyond their present scope but it's up to you to do something about them.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Get away early to whatever most pleases your curiosity and can best further your career. Be purposeful and get good results.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Go directly after the benefits you most desire and gain them but be tactful.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Worldly situations arise that give you an opportunity to express your finest talents, and make a hit with the public.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Don't delay about keeping promises made since you are full of energy and can get fine results now.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Discuss amusements with your friends and set up appointments for the future. Be happier.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Take care you are not too demanding at home and then all works out fine there. Have as many guests in as you can.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Communicating with as many persons as you can will bring fine results at this time. You can easily garner the data you need.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A day when you can gain many benefits by utilizing leads that can bring you a greater income.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You are full of energy and inspiration and can accomplish a good day's work and get fine benefits.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Elevate your consciousness if you want to get ahead faster in the days ahead. Confer with advisers who can give you pointers.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be your gregarious self now and see as many persons as you can for whatever your purposes.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get out in the bustling business world and accomplish a great deal. Let a bigwig know of your ability.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... be or be can express own ideas very well and be very interested in all kinds of philosophies of life, so plan to give as fine an education as you can, but be sure to add foreign languages. Much travel is denoted here, mainly for business purposes and the field of sports.

THE Daily Crossword by Harold B. Counts

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Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, in form four ordinary words.

NILTE

HIRAY

NISUFE

PINGRY

Answer: HIS (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: BERYL APPLY FILLET MORBID

Answer: The best wine after a long voyage—PORT

Over 80 killed by rebels in Philippines campaign violence

MANILA (Agencies) — At least 82 people have been killed in guerrilla violence across the Philippines in the last two weeks of campaigning for Friday's presidential elections, the military said Monday.

Official figures for the 12 days ending Saturday put the death toll at 48 but military spokesman reported 34 other killings in the last 24 hours.

Most of the deaths were on the turbulent southern island of Mindanao and in the central Visayas region where an infantry commander said the Communist New People's Army (NPA) was staging increasingly daring attacks in the run-up to polling day.

President Ferdinand Marcos, who has been battling guerrillas for most of his 20 years in power, has made what he sees as the rebel threat a key plank of his re-election campaign. He has repeatedly accused his opposition opponent Corason Aquino of conspiring with the Communists.

Campaigning officially ends on Wednesday and Mrs. Aquino, confident of victory, spelled out her plans for her first 100 days in power.

Mrs. Aquino, addressing businessmen and diplomats, heaped

fresh scorn on Mr. Marcos' and vowed to work with the "zeal of crusading housewife let loose in a den of world class thieves."

Crowds packed adjacent function rooms, hallways and the main lobby to watch on closed-circuit television as she addressed a joint session of seven Chambers of Commerce in a crowded hotel ballroom.

She offered an immediate six-point programme which included economic, political and social measures, and steps to "restore professionalism and honour to the armed forces" and integrity to the judicial system.

Mrs. Aquino said she would retire all extended-service generals, replacing them with deserving colonels and other officers, and file administrative and criminal charges against corrupt and incompetent judges.

She was confident the NPA would accept her offer of a six-month ceasefire. "If they do not

do so, then I will have to use military force on them," she added. "But before we move to that I would like to exhaust all bloodless means."

Mr. Marcos, who spent the day in his Manila palace, issued a statement saying guerrilla leaders had infiltrated Manila, the second city of Cebu, and other cities.

According to the military, Communist death squads involving up to 300 men have fanned out across the Manila to wage a terror campaign during the election.

Military spokesman said at least 18 rebels were killed and 20 soldiers wounded in separate gunbattles in western Mindanao Sunday. About 100 NPA gunmen hiding in sugar cane fields killed 11 soldiers and the wife of one of them on the Visayan island of Negros in another major attack.

In the central province of North Samar, one of the Philippines' most impoverished regions, the commander of the government's Third Infantry Brigade told Reuters the NPA had become more daring and aggressive than at any time in the last 10 years.

Mr. Marcos and Mrs. Aquino will appear live on the ABC-TV programme Nightline, the U.S. broadcast network said.

The one-hour programme is to be broadcast at 11:30 p.m. Wednesday (0430 GMT Thursday), Laura Wessner, a spokeswoman for the programme, said Sunday. She said the appearance would be a debate.

In the Philippines, representatives for Mrs. Aquino and Mr. Marcos said there was a tentative agreement for them to appear on the programme. But neither described it as a debate.

Mrs. Aquino's secretary, Telly Romasanta, said the understanding was that Mrs. Aquino would be asked questions, and it would not be a debate.

Vicente Tiazon, media information officer for Mr. Marcos, said both candidates would appear but there was no plan to broadcast the programme in the Philippines.

Mr. Marcos' critics say that all of the nation's television stations are government operated or owned by relatives and associates of the president. Mrs. Aquino has received scant attention while Mr. Marcos' campaign is covered extensively.



Chun Doo Hwan

S. Korean leader to step down when term ends

NEW YORK (AP) — President Chun Doo Hwan of South Korea said he would step down after his single term of office expires in 1988, according to an interview published in Newsweek magazine Monday.

In order to make a smooth transition in the year his country will host the 1988 Olympic Games, Mr. Chun told Newsweek, "I am going to stand by (the) constitution... I look forward to fulfilling my function under the law."

Asked whether Korea is following Japan toward being a major Asian economic power, Mr. Chun told the magazine: "Our GNP is \$80 billion. Japan's is \$1.2 trillion... it's almost cruel to say Korea is another Japan, let's push them (South Korea) with trade restrictions."

GNP stands for gross national product, a broad measure of a country's income.

Although Mr. Chun told the magazine, "the Soviet Union has visibly and measurably increased military assistance to North Korea," he remained open to meeting with his North Korean counterpart.

Nakasone's challenger expanding power base

TOKYO (R) — Japan's Finance Minister Noboru Takeshita is being tipped as potentially the strongest challenger in the struggle to succeed Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone later this year.

Mr. Nakasone's second term as president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), and thus as prime minister, ends on Oct. 30 this year. However, there has been speculation he may try to change the party rules which currently preclude him from running for a third term.

Political sources said Monday that Mr. Takeshita plans a major reorganisation of his support group called Soseikai which he formed a year ago. The group, now numbering 52 including three cabinet ministers, is part of the biggest LDP faction of 122 members led by ailing former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka.

The Tanaka faction has long had a controlling voice in the making of a premier. But the illness which took Tanaka out of active politics a year ago left the field clear for Mr. Takeshita to manoeuvre to carve out his own power base.

The newspaper Mainichi Shimbun Monday carried a photograph of Tanaka, who has been partially paralysed following a stroke on Feb. 27 last year, moving

round his garden in a wheelchair. He was raising and lowering his left hand in what looked like rehabilitation exercises.

The sources said Mr. Takeshita now hopes to expand his group to about 100 members, to make it the biggest faction within the LDP. A source close to the Soseikai confirmed that a reorganisation was in progress.

If Mr. Takeshita succeeds, his group would outnumber each of the other main LDP factions. These are the 81-member group headed by former Foreign Minister Kikichi Miyazawa, the 72-strong faction whose acting head is Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and Mr. Nakasone's own 65-member faction.

Soseikai's drive for new members was prompted partly by statements from Mr. Abe and Mr. Miyazawa that they would avoid political clashes with Mr. Nakasone only up to the Tokyo summit of industrial countries in May. After that it could be open war for the succession.

One political source said the chances of Mr. Takeshita collecting 100 members would depend on whether he gets support from LDP Vice-President Susumu Nakaido, nominal head of the Tanaka faction and still loyal to Mr. Tanaka.



Remains in drains go mainly with the rains

CANBERRA (R) — Blood and human remains have been quietly flowing into the ornamental lake in the centre of Australia's capital for the last 30 years, city health officials said Monday. Refuse washed from the tables of Canberra's morgue after post mortems has flowed down drains wrongly connected to a storm water system instead of a sewer. "Blood and bits and pieces of human bodies" would have been flushed down the drains since the city's morgue was built in the late 1950s, a local health authority spokesman said. Workers moved in Monday to redirect the waste to the proper channels after the mistake was discovered. A major hazard, the spokesman said, Lake Burley Griffin is no stranger to the macabre. Human skeletons turned up when the river which flows into the lake flooded about 10 years ago and carried with it part of a cemetery.

'Rusty' knife-thrower nicks circus partner

WELLINGTON (R) — Circus knife-thrower Jenny Conway admitted she was "a little rusty" after hitting her partner during their act in Rotorua at the weekend. Partner Larry Roper, who had three stitches inserted in the knife wound to his arm, said: "It's the third time she's hit me... there will never be a fourth." He did not expand. The off-target blade capped an unhappy week for the Whirling Brothers Circus in the North Island tourist town. Two days earlier three of its performing lions escaped during a show and bones around the lake-front, terrifying holiday-makers before being recaptured.

Woman-slasher sentenced to death

PEKING (R) — A man in the north east China city of Shenyang who waylaid women and slashed their breasts and buttocks with a fruit knife has been sentenced to death, the local official newspaper reported. The Shenyang Daily said Wang Jinhou, 29, had slashed 25 women since September last year. It gave no other details.

Bangladesh launches hunt against rodents

DHAKA (R) — Bangladesh, suffering from chronic food shortages, has launched a six-week campaign to hunt down rodents which it says destroy crops worth nearly \$500 million every year. The government will offer a reward of 300 taka (\$10) for the bodies of every 1,000 rodents killed. "Rodents are one of the country's worst enemies which not only destroy foodgrains but slow the overall economic progress," Agriculture Minister Abdul Munim said when inaugurating the campaign.

Liechtenstein women vote for first time

VADUZ, Liechtenstein (R) — Women voted for the first time in the history of Liechtenstein and helped return a conservative coalition to power in the 15-member parliament, election officials said. Only one woman candidate among the 10 who stood from the three political groups seeking power was elected. The right to vote for women among the 27,000 population was granted in 1984 when Crown Prince Hans Adam took over executive power from his father. The traditional two-party conservative coalition was challenged by a list of "Green" Party candidates pushing for greater action on environmental issues. The Greens had hoped women voters would back their challenge but its candidates, including four women, failed to obtain the eight per cent of the vote needed for single seat, officials said.

China plans new culinary campaign

CHENGDU, South West China (R) — China Monday served notice of a new campaign to attract the palates of the world with an export commodity sure to spice up its foreign exchange earnings — Sichuan Cuisine. The south-western province of Sichuan, famous for its hot, spicy food, has already established a beachhead in the Western World.

70 reported killed in Haiti violence

PORT-AU-PRINCE (R) — Gunfire echoed through the deserted streets of the Haitian capital every few minutes and doctors and opposition sources reported that at least 70 people have died in a week of anti-government violence.

Belleguered President Jean-Claude Duvalier, who has not been seen in public for nearly a week, said in a television message on Friday he would soon present a new plan to improve living conditions in this impoverished Caribbean nation ruled by the Duvalier dynasty since 1967.

The trouble in Port-Au-Prince began on Friday after Duvalier imposed a state of siege. It was the first time any major anti-government protest or violence had occurred in the capital.

Doctors at the State University Hospital said at least 50 people had been killed and more than 100 injured during disorder in central

Port-Au-Prince on Friday. Residents said the normally bustling capital was quieter than usual Sunday, but pre-carnival celebrations, with youths chanting and dancing in the muddy streets of La Saline slum, brought an unexpected air of festivity.

An estimated 20 deaths in the past week, plus scattered demonstrations and violence Sunday were reported in several provincial towns by opposition sources.

In Port-Au-Prince, where the 30-day state of siege was in force, single rounds or submachine guns bursts rang out every five or ten minutes for the third consecutive night in the slum area of the capital.

In the small town of St. Marc, 90 kilometres north of here, crowd of at least 200 people ran through the streets carrying a coffin with the inscription "Jean-Claude, this is for you," American news photo-

grapher Paul Gero said. Other journalists had their movements restricted. A Canadian television crew ran into one of several military roadblocks set up around Port-Au-Prince on their way to Gonaives and had to head back to the capital.

An Information Ministry spokesman told foreign reporters provincial military authorities were "extremely busy" and could not guarantee their security. He suggested they not leave the capital.

Travelers have reported countless roadblocks between towns, manned by villagers sympathising with the revolt and often demanding money before letting people pass.

Information from the rest of the country was scarce, with the three major independent radio stations, including the Catholic-run Radio Soleil, ordered off the air.

Pope arrives in Calcutta

CALCUTTA, India (R) — Pope John Paul journeyed Monday to India's largest city to meet Mother Teresa, the diminutive nun whose work among the destitute in Calcutta's sprawling slums earned her the Nobel Peace Prize.

The Pope, on the third day of his 10-day Indian tour, arrived at Dum-Dum Airport in mid-afternoon.

Police Commissioner D.K. Basu told Reuters about 4,000 police, including elite commandos and mounted units, were patrolling the city of more than nine million people established by British traders in 1690.

Mother Teresa, 76-year-old founder of the Missionaries of Charity, opened her first school in the Calcutta slums in 1948. Her work earned her the Nobel Prize in 1979.

Earlier Monday, the Pope made a three-hour stop in Ranchi, a predominantly Catholic city of 500,000 in eastern Bihar state, one of the most destitute and feudal regions of India.

During a mass celebrated in a dusty field before 200,000 people, the Pope continued his plea for an end to discrimination based on India's traditional caste system.

"My heart goes out in a special way to the many unemployed who want to work but are unable to find suitable employment because of discrimination based on religion, caste, community or language," he said in a sermon.

Pope John Paul received a colourful welcome at Ranchi. A straw head-dress was placed on him as dancing girls in tribal dress sprinkled water from mango leaves on his shoes in a traditional greeting.

He celebrated mass in orange vestments adorned with traditional tribal symbols. But the heavy security that has marked the papal visit to India was much in evidence. Army engineers with explosives detectors checked offerings of rice, coal, fruit, grass mats, sugar cane and sesame seeds before they were brought to the altar.

After the mass the Pope, moving within the confines of his security perimeter, walked towards the waiting crowd, blessing people and touching outstretched hands.

Amnesty urges new Guatemalan leader to end torture

LONDON (Agencies) — Amnesty International said Tuesday it had called on the new civilian government in Guatemala to put an end to the widespread torture, "disappearance" and political killing carried out by government forces under previous administrations.

Many thousands of non-combatant civilians have died at the hands of government forces in the last 15 years, often after torture and mutilation, the worldwide human rights movement said. Reports of abuses continued throughout 1985, it said.

Amnesty International said it had urged President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo, who took office on Jan. 14, to launch a full investigation into past abuses and to take concrete steps to prevent them from continuing.

It called on the new government to ensure that no-one is arrested for his or her political views or activities, to end secret political detention by making sure arrests are acknowledged, to review the methods of reporting and certifying violent deaths, especially

when they result from the acts of government forces or agents, and to act publicly against Guatemala's infamous "death squad" killings.

It said the evidence in thousands of cases under successive governments led it to conclude that regular military and security forces were responsible for most of the killings and torture. These forces sometimes operated as plainclothes "death squads" acting with official sanction, the organisation added.

Anyone who was thought to oppose the government of the day or to have shown sympathy for its opponents was at risk. Amnesty International said. Villagers, church and lay workers, trade unionists, university students and staff were long-standing targets, it added.

Amnesty International made its appeal to the new president in a letter sent last month, accompanied by a memorandum also sent to the outgoing government of Gen. Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores. The memorandum cited evidence of recent and continuing

abductions, beating and other torture, and killings by government forces. It was based in part on information collected by an Amnesty International delegation which visited Guatemala last April and collected a wide range of testimony on human rights abuses.

It described the delegation's finding of a pit and an unmarked cemetery at a military base at Patzún in Chimaltenango Department, after receiving testimony that prisoners were held in such a pit and bodies dumped in it, and that the cemetery was used to dispose of the corpses. The delegates found remnants of food, rope and paper in the pit, which was covered by a lid of wooden boards and a tin-roofed structure.

The delegation also held talks with Guatemalan government and military officials on such abuses.

The information sent to President Cerezo included eyewitness reports of the wholesale murder of Roman Catholic Church workers suspected of sympathising with opposition forces in recent years. Some were said to have been garrotted, others

hanged, backed to death or burnt alive in churches in a number of separate but related incidents.

Human rights activists have often been victims of abuses. Amnesty International has pressed the government to account for the violent deaths in 1985 of two leaders of a group founded to seek information on people who "disappeared" after being seized by government forces.

Amnesty International said it had evidence of widespread and systematic suppression of trade unionism, with union members abducted, killed, harassed or forced to flee abroad.

Students and staff at the University of San Carlos were reportedly attacked by military and paramilitary forces. At least 70 members of the university community were reported to have "disappeared" in the first 10 months of 1985.

Amnesty International said it had received regular reports since 1981 of the massacre of non-combatant civilians in rural areas during army operations against insurgents.

Arias Sanchez leads in Costa Rican elections

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (R) — Oscar Arias Sanchez of Costa Rica's ruling National Liberation Party (NLP) was leading Monday in first returns from Sunday's presidential election.

Mr. Arias, 44-year-old economist, had 53.6 per cent of the vote with roughly one third of the ballots counted. Rafael Calderon, of the Social Christian Unity Party (PUSC), had 44.4 per cent, according to official figures.

Mr. Arias was well ahead in the San Jose area and staying level with Calderon in the provinces where the PUSC has substantial rural support.

Mr. Arias' campaign managers were predicting an eventual victory margin of some 10 per cent. Election officials reported turnout was heavy among Costa Rica's 1.48 million eligible voters.

"The people were asked to choose between rifles and bread. Today they chose bread," Mr. Arias said at a news conference Sunday night. He was referring to a campaign promise not to restore Costa Rica's army, which was abolished in 1949 after a civil war.

There were no reports of any violent incidents Sunday. Costa Rica has declared its neutrality in the Central American conflicts, but it has close relations with the United States, and anti-Sandinista sentiments have steadily grown.

Despite the neutrality, bands of anti-Sandinista "contra" rebels have operated in the border zone for several years.

The new president will take office on May 8 and rule for a single four-year term. Also being chosen are vice presidents, all 57 legislative assembly members and 81 municipality officials.

Security around President Luis Alberto Monge, who cannot serve a second term, and the two leading candidates was tight as police continued their search for two suspected Colombian terrorists believed to be posing as journalists.

The two suspects, a man and a woman who entered the country through Panama on Jan. 17, disappeared from their hotel the next day without following through strict accreditation rules for foreign reporters.

Greenpeace gives up Antarctic mission

SYDNEY (R) — The Greenpeace Antarctic expedition was heading for New Zealand Monday after giving up plans to dump equipment for a planned base camp because of impenetrable pack ice, the expedition director said.

"We simply can't get in, it's unsafe to go in there with our vessel," Peter Wilkinson told Reuters by telephone from Greenpeace, the environmental group's flagship.

The 35-man crew had hoped to reach a site on Ross Island to off-load equipment and supplies after thick ice forced them to abandon plans to build a camp to support its campaign to declare the continent a world park.

"It is a prudent withdrawal, we have learned a hell of a lot and without a doubt we will be back next summer to build the camp," Mr. Wilkinson said.

Mr. Wilkinson said Antarctic treaty members like New Zealand should realise that the continent did not belong to them and that Greenpeace had just as much right to be there.

Members of both the current Greenpeace expedition and the recent British Footprints Of Scott team were ejected from the base.

"The spirit of cooperation on Antarctic exists but when you get up to the higher echelons of government officialdom it just sours the whole atmosphere," Mr. Wilkinson said.

The Greenpeace, which left here in mid-December to establish the first private research base on the southern continent, was criticised by the New Zealand, Australian and U.S. governments' which said their boat was ill-equipped.

The crew stepped on to the ice late last week to declare the continent a world park but unsuccessfully heavy pack ice prevented passage to McMurdo Sound where Ross Island is located.

"Given the right conditions, the boat is okay and if we had come down here last year, we would have gone through without meeting any ice," Mr. Wilkinson said.

The worst Antarctic summer pack ice for 30 years crushed and sank the British expedition's support ship Southern Quest in mid-January near where Greenpeace was trying to find its way to McMurdo Sound.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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DEAR MR. GOREN

Q.—You recommended that, even when you play five-card major opening bids, you should have four-card support for a jump raise. Since all writers proclaim that an eight-card fit provides an adequate trump suit, it would seem that three-card support should be adequate. Why this discrepancy? P.F., Atlanta, Ga.

A.—If you could be sure that your side would proceed no higher than game, you probably could afford to jump raise with only three-card support. However, every now and then partner will have a distributional hand that offers slam possibilities, provided that he can ruff losers in his second suit in your hand.

When the opponents now unkindly lead a trump and continue another trump if they get in, those ruffs that declarer was counting on have vanished. As a result, instead of making a game you go down a trick or two at a slam. Occasionally, you could even get too high in game.

There are other ways to bid good hands with only three-card trump support. Reserve your jump raises for hands with four-card support.

Q.—There are many different ways to treat a reverse bid. It makes little difference which method you adopt, as long as you and your partner discuss and understand the nuances.

This fairly simple treatment has proved popular with modern players. The reverse is forcing to at least three of opener's first suit. The only weak bid is two no trump. All other rebids by responder are constructive, except that a rebid of his own major suit may be made with a weak hand and a five-card or longer suit.

Thus a simple preference to opener's first suit can be made with quite a good hand. Since responder did not make a weakness rebid, he might simply be settling the suit early prior to starting a slam investigation. Consider these two auctions:

(1) West East (2) West East
10 14 10 14
20 24 20 24

Both auctions are forcing! In the first case, the bidding has not yet reached the three-level in opener's first suit. In the second, East did not show a weak hand by first bidding two no trump, for possibly, two spades; therefore, his hand is unlimited and opener must bid again.

Q.—There is considerable confusion in our rubber bridge game about "reverse" bids. Is the bid forcing or not? How do you show a weak hand as responder? We need help. C.W., Toronto.